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"We are strongly impressed with the fact, that the period approaches when the great British North American people should no longer feel an 'inferiority to their neighbours;' that the age is past when their connexion with the mother-country should be but as 'a link to that empire of remote dependence.' We declare that, as 'in its government we and our countrymen have no voice,' it is high time that they should arouse and 'raise up for the North American Colonist some nationality of his own,'—a nationality by which their position will be elevated, and the people removed from a sphere wherein they will no longer 'find petty

objects, occupying petty, stationary, and divided societies.'

"Conceding, as a great and wholesome truth, the superiority of Monarchical institutions over the false and degrading influences of Republican government,—acknowledging the inestimable benefits already derived from Canadian connexion with the mother-country, and the mild and happy influence of a gracious Sovereign's sway, we desire so to cement that connexion, that each decade of the Canadian population may add to the throne of Great Britain millions of devoted defenders. To secure such a permanent union of chivalrous feeling and loyalty, there is but one course to be pursued, and that is, to 'raise up for the Colonist SOME NATIONALITY OF HIS OWN,'—a nationality which will for ever remove him from 'the deadening influence of the narrow and subordinate community to which he belongs.' Since 'no large community of free and intelligent men will long feel contented with a political system which places them, because it places their country, in a position of inferiority to their neighbours,' it behoves statesmen to remove that cause of discontent, and so elevate the destinies of the country, that free-born and intelligent British North Americans may no longer feel the degrading position of 'inferiority to their neighbours,' so eloquently depicted by one of Canada's most able Governors-General.

"The nationality required by the British North American Colonist is one which has been hallowed by experience, and sanctified by the wisdom of centuries: it is a nationality removed from a wild and speculative theory, and based on nothing less than the Magna Charta of English liberties. The independence he desires is not that which, while it declares 'all men free and equal,' still subjugates and holds in the chains of debased slavery millions of fellow-creatures: the nationality destined for British North America is a Monarchical one.

"To arrive at that great and glorious position, it will be necessary—that there should be a Viceroy for British North America, who should be a member of the Royal Family of England, appointed by Her Majesty, as Her Viceroy 'of the United Viceroyalty of the (Eastern and Western, or) Grand Canadas, and the (Lower, or) Maritime Provinces.' It would be most acceptable to Her Majesty's loyal subjects, that the Viceroy should be one of the Royal Princes, with a Regent until he be of age."

We cannot enter on any detailed notice of the political questions discussed by Colonel Sleigh, but the importance of speedy attention being given to the subject by our British legislators and statesmen will be apparent from the following statement of our relations with the American Republic:—

"In a military point of view, the retention of the British Provinces of North America acts as a decided check upon the aggrandizing spirit of the United States. While England retains her Canadian possessions, the whole northern frontier of the republic is vulnerable—is open to assault. Once lose the Provinces, and the West Indies are, in fact, lost also. Then the United States would be placed in a position most advantageous for any offensive operations the bad spirit of her citizens and hatred to England might offer a pretext for. While Great Britain retains British North America and the West Indies, the Southern States would present a field for successful operations on our part in the event of a war. The dread, by the Americans, of the liberation of their slaves in the South, affords at the present critical moment in European affairs the chief inducement to restrain the bellicose predilections of the citizens of the Union. Were England to be involved in a war with France, we have no hesitation in asserting, however unpopular our view of the case may be, and in the face of all the expressions of amity and goodwill which the educated and refined American expresses towards the mother-country, that the first ally that would offer assistance to our enemies would be the United States of America. We have reluctantly come to this conviction al-

most against our belief, from an actual observation made in the States, and with the most ardent feelings of friendship and admiration towards an energetic, talented, and, like England, as fine and brave a race as is to be found on the face of the globe. But unfortunately, in the United States, wealth, talent, and chivalrous honour, which are to be found on all sides, form the least influential portion of the community. The mob there decides the question of peace or war, and not the least eager in that mob for war with England are renegade citizens from the mother-country. France—be it not forgotten, once assisted the struggling States with subsidies and a La Fayette: a debt of gratitude is still due by the latter, which she would not be slow in repaying. For Great Britain to retain her North American Provinces is, therefore, not a question of choice—it is one of urgent necessity. But that necessity, however great it may be, will not save those Provinces, unless a speedy change take place in the entire political system of their government. What that change must be, and why it is called for, will be more apparent when we have taken a view of the British North American Provinces in detail."

Descriptive and statistical details are given of the present condition and the resources of the various provinces, with notices of their products, mineral wealth, means of communication, revenue, and other matters of commercial or economical interest. The inducements to emigrants of all classes are eloquently urged, and a glowing picture is presented of the comfort and dignity attainable with an income which in England would imply the *res angusta domi*. Every one with a settled income of above 350*l.* or 400*l.* a-year may have all the enjoyment of life which more than double the sum would not procure in England, while a man with a thousand a-year may 'live like a prince:—

"His position in life may be thus summed up:—he would live in an elegant house, surrounded with grounds,—from twenty to fifty acres,—in the environs of Montreal, Quebec, Kingston, Toronto, London, Canada West; Fredericton, or St. John's, New Brunswick; and last, though not least, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Those towns are *the chief*, and to a man in his position, one or other of them would be selected. He has his carriage, his handsome sleigh for winter service; horses for himself, his lady, and daughters; elegantly-furnished saloons, library, ball- and dining-rooms; his choice wines, his stables, his gun and rod, his Indian canoe and retainers. He could afford to entertain his friends hospitably; to provide a governess and masters for his daughters finishing their education; to send his sons to college,—there is one to be found in every province:—in a word, he could be an independent happy man; his income not only sufficient for all these luxuries, but leaving a few hundreds to put by every year. And each night he would surely retire to bed in thankfulness for the comforts by which he is surrounded; no cloud intervening, nor a thought of debts unpaid, or income gradually lessening; no uncertainty as to the fate of his children, should he be suddenly summoned away. He knows he is independent; the future of his children prosperous, as far as he is concerned. Misfortune could only be the result of *their* indiscretion."

The picture is not, however, without its dark side, of which some glimpses appear throughout the volume, as in the account of the party contentions, political strifes, and personal quarrels and jealousies, not omitting that unpleasant epidemic in all provincial and colonial societies—love of gossip, and tendency to evil-speaking of neighbours. We have commenced our notice of Colonel Sleigh's book with reference to the political and social subjects contained in it, as they are of the most practical interest to English readers; and the title of



the work scarcely led us to expect to find so much accurate and detailed information as to these countries. We must now turn to the more entertaining, and to many readers the more interesting, portions of the volume, descriptive of Canadian scenery and natural history, and of personal adventures. The following passage explains and illustrates the title of the work, 'Pine Forests and Hachmatack Clearings':—

"The prevailing features of the northern division of the British North American Continent, are vast successions of Pine Forests, which stretch along the shores of the Atlantic, and timber the bays and rivers which disembody themselves into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The same genus, *Pinus*, including every variety of resinous evergreens, grows within the regions bounded by the 43rd and 50th parallels of latitude. Proceeding inland are to be found the white pine (*Pinus Strobus*), the red pine (*Pinus rubra*), the black pine (*Pinus nigra*), hemlock (*Pinus Canadensis*), the spruce (*Pinus nigra et alba*), the balsam, or fir (*Pinus balsamea*), the tamarack (*Pinus pendula*), and the cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*). These species are most generally in the intervals, forming what are termed 'soft woodlands'.

"Where the progress of man has not as yet swept away the timber of those solitudes, they cannot be more appropriately designated than Pine forests.

"The tree next in frequency to be met with by the traveller is the *Larix Americana*—the Hachmatack of the Indians, and *Tamarack* of the Dutch. Botanists state that the Hachmatack grows in profusion in the North-eastern States and British America; but it prevails to an even greater extent in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. It is more frequently used in ship-building of Colonial vessels, as it is a 'wood, hard, strong, and very durable,' while the houses of the settlers are almost entirely constructed of it. It is 'not so easily ignited as most of the Pine tribe, but when once blazing, it burns with great briskness, giving out a fervent heat; it is therefore in great request for steam-boats and engines in Canada and the States.'

"It is the most durable wood to be found in British North America, equalling English oak or the far-famed teak. There is 'no record of a vessel built of Hachmatack having been destroyed by dry-rot;' whilst, in several cases, the oak, and other timber surrounding and immediately contiguous to it, has been found decayed. This tree attains a great age: Linnaeus states that species have been found more than four hundred years old. 'Tiberius caused the Naumachiarian Bridge, constructed by Augustus, and afterwards burnt, to be rebuilt of larch-planks brought from Rhetia. Painters, from the time of Pliny to that of Raphael, trusted their works to this wood, which the Roman naturalist styles 'immortale lignum.' The Romans, when first acquainted with the larch (the hachmatack of the American continent), lost no time in bringing it down from the Alps. Vitruvius bears evidence of its value as a building timber. Pliny says, 'This tree is the best of the kind that bears resin; it rots not, but endures a long time.' And this assertion of Pliny is well borne out by the fact, that the immense floating palace, or ship, built of cypress and larch by the Emperor Trajan, as a summer residence on Lake Nemi, having been weighed up, the timber was found sound after fourteen hundred years' immersion.' The Colonists are fortunate in having in such abundance the favourite timber of the Romans.

"Where the forests have been felled by the axe of the pioneer, these places are called, in provincial phraseology, 'Clearings;' and as the locations where now are to be found the great cities and cultivated lands of the British North American Provinces, were formerly timbered with the *Larix Americana*, I considered it as appropriate, and conveying the meaning I wished to be understood by the title of this work, to refer to those places as 'Hachmatack Clearings.' Hence the combination

of these two woods has suggested to the author 'Pine Forests and Hachmatack Clearings.'

We can afford space for only one of the author's narratives of personal adventure, where a stirring scene is described in a most spirited manner. It is a journey in "the ice-boat," across Northumberland Straits to Prince Edward's Island, in March, 1852. The whole chapter is one of striking narrative, but we only give some detached passages:—

"In the morning at six I was roused by Irving; the wind had gone down over-night, and he reported the appearance of the Straits as favourable for a passage over. I was soon dressed. I put on my pair of American India-rubber jack-boots, extending to the thighs; my fur cap with its lappets covered the ears; while gauntlet gloves of Astracan fur protected me to the elbows. Besides my portmanteau, I had a small carpet-bag, in which was a flask of pale brandy, a bundle of cigars, a box of lucifer-matches, and some slices of bread and pork. Thus provided, I bade farewell to old Allen and his wife, not forgetting 'Poor Tom,' who had arrived at four in the morning, with the mails from Amherst, and who accompanied us as far as the shore-ice, to assist in starting the ice-boat, which we found keel upwards under a snow-drift.

"On turning over the boat, underneath lay some oars, a couple of boat-hooks, a pole with a three-pronged iron head, two Indian paddles, a hatchet, a small hammer, an old tin pot to bale with, a water-keg, a few old rusty nails in a bag, and one or two other unimportant ecceteras. The boat was about fifteen feet long, built of very slight planking, and sheeted outside with tin, while on each side of the keel, which was but a nominal one—for the boat was nearly flat-bottomed—were wooden runners placed parallel to each other, upon which the boat passed along the ice like a sledge.

"The crew consisted of Irving the captain, and three strong Islanders. There was one passenger, the master of a coasting craft which had been frozen in the Gut of Canso, and myself,—six in all. Our preparations were soon made for starting. The bags containing the mails were placed in the bottom of the boat, and my portmanteau in the centre, while the carpet-bag was tied under one of the seats. Limited to freightage, these boats carry only what cannot possibly be avoided, as it is all-important, for passage on the surface of the ice, that it be light. We were now placed in order: three stood on either side of the boat, a leather strap was passed over the right shoulder of those on the larboard, and left shoulder of those on the starboard side, meeting under the opposite armpit. To each of these was attached an iron chain, which was fastened inside the gunwale of the boat. We were thus harnessed, with our faces to the bows, one hand firmly holding the gunwale, the body stretched slightly forward; and, at the word 'Start!' each man equally drew the boat, and thus, from a walking pace we got into a trot, then a canter, and, the speed once up, away we ran over the slippery surface of the ice, with the cheering 'Pull hearty, my boys!' of our conductor, the boat gliding on the runners.

"In crossing, a passenger must work the same as one of the crew, as it is impossible to give him an idle seat in the boat, from the increased weight which would be thus caused, and consequently thrown upon those through whose muscular exertions the light craft is propelled; and, as will be seen further on, when casualties occur, extra weight might lead to the swamping of the boat.

"We had proceeded about a mile on the shore-ice, when we halted for a few moments to enable us to remove our outer garments, which had become unbearable from the warmth the rapid exercise had created. Away went coats, wrappers, and gauntlets, into the boat, and with only my shooting-jacket on, after a drink of water all round, away we started again. We had soon reached the extent of the shore-ice, and now commenced our labours. All unfastened the straps from off the shoulder, as a long ridge of sharp boulders had to

be escalated. Irving sprang forward with a line, and clambered up a mass of ice some fifteen feet high; he got on the other side, and all hands applying full strength, we pushed the boat upwards after him; a couple of the crew now mounted on the top of the ice, and getting the bows of the boat well poised, they overbalanced her, and down she glided on the other side.

"I found it a most difficult task to follow these nimble fellows; my India-rubber boots caused me continually to slip on those portions of the ice where no snow lay; but having gone head-over-heels half-a-dozen times, I soon became acquainted with the ups and downs of my journey. After clambering up a boulder, I found the easiest way to gain the other side was to slide down on my back; this in some instances became a dangerous experiment, as in the gullies between two masses of ice snow had generally collected to the depth of several feet; and, on going down a rather steep declivity, I found myself up to the armpits in broken ice, snow, and water, and Irving being near, he snatched at me, otherwise I ran a fair chance of disappearing. This rendered me more cautious in my sliding experiments, for the masses of ice thus thrown together in confusion were unconnected at the base, floating independently of the others around. More than two hours were occupied in crossing a quarter of a mile of this barrier. The wind the previous night was from the northward and eastward, which drove over the bergs towards the New Brunswick shore, and, having blown a gale, the masses were thrown with violence one on another, assuming every fantastic shape the imagination can conceive.

"On reaching the last ridge, we had an opportunity of again looking out upon the Straits. Further than the eye could see were enormous fields of ice, with black patches and streaks here and there, appearing like ink from the contrast with the whiteness around: this was the water. A snowdrift soon obscured the horizon, but passing away to the south, we lost no time in launching the boat into a surging mass of broken drift-ice. The pilotage through this was most difficult: all hands were engaged with boat-hooks, paddles, and oars, in shoving away one block, drawing on towards another, or with united strength pushing some larger obstruction to one side. Then we would come to a patch of field-ice about a hundred feet broad: each man stepped from the stern towards the bows, and, assisted by those who had first jumped on the ice, one by one we stepped on the frozen surface. A long line was laid hold of, and thus we would drag the boat on the field, and again harnessing ourselves to the gunwales, drag it towards another opening. The boat was shoved, bows into the water, and then drawn alongside the ice. In we all stepped; by renewed exertions similar to the last we succeeded in making a few hundred yards of distance, but frequently not in our right course, as the noon tide, which set in with a strong southerly force, had carried us a couple of miles too far to that quarter, as our direction was east by north."

After a day of toil and peril, and a night of adventure, the passage was effected:—

"At ten in the morning we had approached to within three miles of the Island, which could be now seen, the shores fringed with pine-forests, dark and impervious, while a long red streak stretched along the coast. This arose from the colour of the soil, which is most peculiar, and we had often seen bergs, the tops covered with red dust, blown from the shores: they had a singular appearance.

"We had our renewed struggles of yesterday over blocks of ice and sharp boulders, which were heaped, if possible, in more inextricable confusion. When we had neared the shore-ice, we were cheered by seeing, on an eminence in the distance, some human forms, who by gestures pointed out a favourable course to steer by over the ice. These silent directions we followed, and in another hour we had clambered over the last ridge, and were met by Philip Irving, elder brother of Arthur, who was one of the conductors of the ice-boat Mail

service. He had brought down a sledge, upon which all were glad to mount, the ice-boat being previously lifted on to it."

We must not omit to notice with special commendation the chapter on the United States, which is one of the fairest and most truthful sketches of American life and character that we have met with. The representation is the more honourable to the author, and the more worthy of reception by the reader, from the strong hostility of Colonel Sleigh to their political institutions. The unfavourable traits of Yankee character are not spared, but it is pleasant to hear an English traveller speaking thus of the people of the States:—

"It is a common notion, originated by English people who have visited the United States, that the conduct of the people is extremely rough, uncourteous and rude. I can readily imagine why this impression sometimes gains currency. English people are generally a reserved race: they journey, and commune with their own thoughts, whatever they may be, instead of conversing with their fellow-travellers in a coach, railway-train, or steam-boat. In the Old Country, hauteur is often assumed, from an idea that it conveys with it dignity and importance. To be brusque and short in your reply, is to be a man of great mark and likelihood; to be particularly sullen and disagreeable in your deportment, is supposed to convey to vulgar minds an impression of aristocratic exclusiveness. Answer a person in England particularly civilly, and I fear I must say, you are at once regarded by the lower classes as of no account. Be tart, snappish, and imperious, and the hat is touched, and you rise in estimation. These ideas, firmly impressed upon the mind of the English traveller, when he arrives on the other side of the Atlantic, and finds himself in the United States, on 'foreign' ground, the national thermometer falls to the freezing point:—the Englishman feels he is abroad, among Americans; and that himself and his nation are the better of the two. This idea may be all very patriotic, and very well in its way; but it operates unfavourably on the spirit of inquiry, by contracting the disposition to be pleased with all one sees, and it opens rather widely the green-eyed spirit of jealousy.

"Our traveller starts on his tour; he is addressed civilly by some American—gives a curt and brusque retort; 'Yankee dander' is up, and, probably, he learns a few home truths, seasonably administered. Americans are, at once, jotted down in his journal, 'impertinent,' 'brutes,' 'democrats,' &c.; and on this theme a chapter is written.

"I can most seriously affirm, that I never once received from an American a rude reply: my inquiries, to whomsoever addressed, from the President to the engine-driver, were invariably answered with politeness, and an anxiety to give every information. In travelling, I remarked particularly how attentive your fellow-travellers were; and whenever believed to be from the Old Country, I received additional courtesy. My plan was to address every one, whatever his station, with civility; that is all that is required in America; civility is a passport all over the Continent, from the St. Lawrence to the Rocky Mountains. But once assume the haughty airs of the Old Country, and you get, what you richly deserve, some sharp retort, conveying probably some unwelcome truths, touching 'aristocrats,' &c.

"The politeness of the Americans to ladies is beyond all praise. A lady can travel all over the Union, and never once be insulted. If she is alone, it is taken for granted that she is obliged to travel without a protector: she may be going to join or rejoin her friends in a distant State; or business may require her presence; they know not, and ask not why she chances to be alone. It appears to me to mark very strongly and favourably the manliness and chivalry of a people,—this

treatment of the weaker sex with courtesy and politeness.

"Another pleasing feature observable in travelling is, that your fellow-travellers are all clean and well-dressed. Accordingly, in railway trains, in which there are no first, second, or third class carriages, a gentleman does not feel at all inconvenienced by his neighbour. Again, although all are Republicans, and each, from the carter to the millionaire, has an equal chance of arriving at the highest dignity—the Presidential Chair—there is a very marked respect for persons eminent as commercial men, in the Senate, or in the military service."

After the foregoing extracts any formal recommendation of Colonel Sleigh's book is needless. On the British North American possessions it is one of the best works that have appeared, conveying much information in an agreeable style, and ably discussing social and political subjects of growing importance in regard to the relations of the colonies with the mother-country.

*Liber Fluviorum; or, River Scenery of France.* Depicted in Sixty-one Line Engravings from Drawings by J. M. W. Turner, R.A.; with descriptive Letter-press, by Leitch Ritchie; and a Biographical Sketch, by Alaric A. Watts. H. G. Bohn.

*The Coinage of the British Empire.* By Henry Noel Humphreys. Illustrated by Fac-similes of the Coins of each Period. N. Cooke.

*The Keepsake.* 1854. Edited by Miss Power. D. Bogue.

*Feathered Favourites.* Twelve coloured pictures of British Birds, from Drawings by Joseph Wolf. Bosworth.

*The Lay of the Last Minstrel.* Illustrated by One Hundred Engravings on Wood, from Drawings by Birket Foster and John Gilbert. A. and C. Black.

We have grouped these works together as representatives of the welcome class of gift-books usually appearing at this season, and seeking popular favour chiefly from their pictorial attractiveness. First in order, as in value, we put the 'Liber Fluviorum; or, River Scenery of France,' one of the finest published monuments of Turner's skill and genius. It is a book worthy of being associated with the name of the great painter. What the graver's art can do to perpetuate and spread abroad the inspirations and labours of an artist is well achieved in this volume. Without specifying particular plates, we may say that the various engravers have successfully striven to do justice to the subjects committed to them. There are sixty-one plates, in the highest style of line-engraving. The descriptive letter-press, by Mr. Leitch Ritchie, is ably written, and while illustrating the plates, contains much interesting and useful information. A biographical sketch, by Mr. Alaric A. Watts, is prefixed, which gives a fair account of Turner's life and works. Mr. Watts does not write an enthusiastic panegyric, such as Mr. Ruskin would have penned, but his appreciation of Turner is apparent from the opening words, in which he pronounces him "the greatest landscape painter the world ever saw." To the biographical notices which have already appeared, a few interesting facts are added by Mr. Watts:—

"In 1825, the writer accompanied the late Mr. J. O. Robinson, of the firm of Hurst, Robinson, and Co., to his house, by appointment, to look at

a picture which had been recommended by Mr. John Pye for engraving as a companion to the *Temple of Jupiter*, purchased by that firm for 500 guineas, and splendidly engraved by Mr. Pye. But although 750 guineas was the sum Mr. Turner had himself named for this picture (his *Carthage*) only a few days before, he had in the interim increased his demand to 1000 guineas. Mr. Robinson objected that he could not consent to so large an increase of price, without obtaining the sanction of his partners; but before they had had time to make up their minds, Mr. Turner sent them a verbal message, declining to dispose of it at all: he considered it, he said, his *chef d'œuvre*."

Of the paintings of the 'Rivers of France,' a brief notice is given in the prefatory memoir:—

"During some three years Turner was associated in the production of the 'Rivers of France' with Mr. Leitch Ritchie, the gentleman whose descriptions occupy the following sheets. They travelled, however, very little in company; their tastes in everything but art being exceedingly dissimilar. 'I was curious,' says Mr. Ritchie, 'in observing what he made of the objects he selected for his sketches, and was frequently surprised to find what a forcible idea he conveyed of a place with scarcely a single correct detail. His exaggerations, when it suited his purpose to exaggerate, were wonderful, lifting up, for instance, by two or three stories, the steeple, or rather stunted cone, of a village church; and when I returned to London I never failed to roast him on this habit. He took my remarks in good part, sometimes, indeed, with great glee, never attempting to defend himself otherwise than by rolling back the war into the enemy's camp. In my account of the famous Gilles de Retz I had attempted to identify that prototype of 'Blue Beard' with the hero of the nursery story, by absurdly insisting that his beard was so intensely black that it seemed to have a shade of blue. This tickled the great painter hugely, and his only reply to my bantering was, 'his little sharp eyes glistening the while, 'Blue Beard! Blue Beard! Black beard.'"

Our readers may be glad to have the following memorandum of the places where Turner's principal works are now deposited:—

"Among the chief collectors of Mr. Turner's works are the following gentlemen, all of whom possess fine specimens of his genius at its culminating point. Foremost in the list is Benjamin Godfrey Windus, Esq., of Tottenham Green, who has, it is believed, the largest and finest collection in the kingdom. Mr. Windus is a gentleman of highly-cultivated taste, and having been an admirer of Turner's pencil for many years, has been enabled to collect a great number of the painter's finest productions. Willing to extend to others the gratification he himself enjoys, he opens his house to a select portion of the public every Tuesday, and it is not too much to affirm that the genius of the painter can nowhere be seen in greater perfection. Mr. Walter Fawkes, of Farnley Hall, Yorkshire, also possesses a remarkably fine collection of Turner's works, especially of his earlier drawings, some of which are of Yorkshire scenery. It is scarcely inferior to Mr. Windus's, and great liberality is exercised in permitting the inspection of it. He was the first great and liberal patron of Turner, and in the year 1819 exhibited his collection to the public, at his mansion in London, and printed a handsome catalogue of it for the convenience of visitors. The Earl of Ellesmere (at Bridgewater House) possesses his *Boats going out to a Wreck*, and the *Gale at Sea*, &c. Among the other known collectors of his works were the late Earl of Egremont, at Petworth; the late Sir John Soane, (the Soane Gallery, in Lincoln's Inn Fields); the late Mr. Leader, (of Putney Hill); John Sheepshanks, Esq. (Rutland Gate); Earl of Yarborough, (Isle of Wight); the late Mr. Vernon, (Vernon Gallery); Samuel Rogers, Esq. (St. James's Place), for whom Turner made the beautiful designs to his 'Italy' and poems; James Wadmore, Esq.



(Clapton;) Mr. Allnutt, (Clapham;) Mr. H. A. J. Munro, (of Hamilton Place;) Mr. L. Powell; George IV. (Greenwich Hospital;) Mr. Bicknell, (of Herne Hill;) the late Lord de Tabley; Mr. Wynn Ellis; Sir John Swinburne; Mr. Stokes; Mr. Ruskin, (Denmark Hill,) the able author of 'Modern Painters,' who has many fine specimens of his latest and finest drawings of Swiss scenery, England and Wales, &c.; and there are also several fine specimens of the painter at Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, and Birmingham.

"The pictures left to the nation (some forty in number) comprise many of Turner's finest works: *Carthage and Crossing the Brook*, the *Snow Storm*, *Frosty Morning*, *Dido and Eneas*, *The Old Temeraire*, *Hail, Rain, and Steam*, *Hannibal*, *The Burial of Wilkie*, *The Death of Nelson*, and other of his chefs d'œuvre."

The second work in our list, 'The Coinage of the British Empire,' is one of much historical as well as artistic interest. The volume formerly published by Mr. Humphreys, 'The Coins of England,' has been for some time out of print, after passing through several editions. The popular demand for such a work amply justified the undertaking of the more extended and complete publication which now appears. A historical and descriptive account of the English coinage is given, with notices of the contemporary coins of Scotland, Ireland, and foreign countries. An introductory treatise on the history of the art of coining, and examples of its progressive development, is a new and valuable feature in this department of literature. Of the beautiful plates illustrating the work, we allow the author to give an account in his own words:—

"The examples selected to illustrate the coinage of each successive reign, or period, are invariably chosen as presenting marked characteristics of the epoch, or as possessing some remarkable peculiarities, either of type or inscription; thus avoiding the confusing mass of examples contained in technical works, the differences between which are only appreciable by the deeply-learned numismatist. As in my former work, I have represented the coins, by a chromolithographic process, in their respective metals—gold, silver, or copper, &c., having found that mode of representation capable of conveying a much more vivid and true idea of a coin, to such as are not constantly in the habit of examining extensive collections of coins of all epochs, than the mere black outline by means of which the examples have been hitherto represented. The striking difference of effect between these two methods of illustrating numismatic works, may be at once tested by comparing one of the metal plates of this volume with the supplemental outlines in the appendix, which are executed in that manner as being merely required to form a series of marginal notes, as it were, to the principal illustrations at the head of each chapter."

As an introduction and guide to the knowledge of British coins, the volume will be found of great value, while its attractive plates and interesting letter-press may almost suffice to create a desire for numismatic study in those to whom the subject is new. It is a pictorial volume, in which art is successfully employed to instruct as well as to please. With the aid of metallic printing, the coins are represented in gold, in silver, and in copper, with remarkable fidelity and neatness.

The reputation of the once flourishing annuals is still creditably sustained by the 'Keepsake,' one of the few survivors of this class of publications. The literary materials are of the average quality, and the list of contributors contains some distinguished names, such as Lamartine and Thackeray. The pieces are not all new, for on turning to what the index announces as by Mr. Planché, we find some lines on Madame Vestris, with

the date of 1834, in response to a poetical *jeu d'esprit* of the same year, by the late James Smith, of the 'Rejected Addresses.' Other scraps of light literature are from various sources collected. Albert Smith, Shirley Brooks, Henry Chorley, the Chevalier de Chatelain, and other writers less known to fame, furnish contributions. None of the prose pieces call for special notice, and the poetry is of the kind usually found in drawing-room albums. The lines on Lucy's Birthday, by Thackeray, will be read for the sake of the author, though they scarcely rise above the average verses of the class:—

"Seventeen rosebuds in a ring,  
Thick with sister-flowers beset,  
In a fragrant coronet,  
Lucy's servants this day bring.  
Be it the birthday wreath she wears;  
Fresh and fair, and symboling  
The young number of her years,  
The soft blushes of her Spring!

"Types of Love, and Youth, and Hope,  
Constant friends your mistress greet;  
Be you ever pure and sweet,  
Growing lovelier as you age!  
Cherished nursing, fenced about  
By fond care, and tended so,  
Scarce you've heard of storms without,  
Thorns that bite, or winds that blow;—

"Kindly has your life begun,  
And we pray that heaven may send  
To our flow'ret a bright sun;  
A warm summer, a sweet end:  
And, where'er her dwelling place,  
May she decorate her home,  
Still expanding into bloom,  
And developing in grace."

The engravings, which form the chief attraction in such volumes, are from drawings by able artists, and executed under the superintendence of Mr. Frederick Heath.

The book of 'Feathered Favourites' contains twelve gorgeously coloured pictures of British birds, from drawings by Mr. Joseph Wolf. The birds of plainer plumage, such as the wren and the swallow, are set off by the beauty of the foliage, or the brilliancy of the landscape, in which their portraits are introduced. Passages are selected from the poets referring to the subjects of the plates. It is a highly ornamental and pleasing volume.

The illustrated edition of 'The Lay of the Last Minstrel' is a companion volume to 'The Lady of the Lake,' issued by the same publisher last Christmas. The typography of the book is beautiful, and the designs by Birket Foster and John Gilbert are admirable in their delineation of the scenery, and spirited in their illustration of the incidents of the poem. The edition is not merely the best in its artistic embellishment, but also the most complete, having all the author's introductions and notes, with extracts from critical notices and literary illustrations that have at various times appeared on the work.

*Salem Redeemed; or, the Year of Jubilee. A Lyrical Drama in three Acts.* By Edmund Peel. F. and J. Rivington.

APART from the sacred and historic associations of the country, there is no doubt that Palestine is destined to be the scene of great events in the future affairs of the world. Though far from the present seats of political power and influence, it is the point on which will soon converge the movements of the nations of Europe. Whatever may be the immediate issue of affairs in the East, whether the Russians extend their power to the Dardanelles, or the French obtain the protectorate of Egypt, England must retain command of a great highway to her empire in India. The jealousy of the great European powers will cause increasing difficulty as to the occupancy of

Syria, and the Holy Land threatens again, as in the days of the Crusades, to become the scene of momentous struggles. Various political signs point to the approaching fulfilment of the sacred prophecies as to the restoration of the Jews to their own land. Many a national jealousy and diplomatic difficulty would be removed by such a consummation. There are hosts of Jews in Hungary, Poland, and other parts of the Continent, who would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity of again settling in their ancestral land, if within their reach either by the purchase of Hebrew merchant princes, or by the arrangements of political powers. There is intellectual ability and military power in the now scattered race to keep the land and restore it to prosperous greatness, and it is difficult to believe that the separate existence of the Jewish people in every land is not connected with great events in their future destiny. It is to the fulfilment of this hope that the present poem relates. Mr. Peel has thrown into dramatic form some of the events suggested by the study of prophetic books and of passing events. The literary merit of the poem is not high, but its subject is deeply interesting. One passage will indicate the nature and style of the work. The speakers are Zarah, leader of Jewish and Arabian soldiers; Adah, a daughter of Judah, betrothed to Zarah; and her companion Hadassah:—

"Zarah. Quiet, alas! no longer. All the west,  
From Yaffa northward to Capha Bay  
And the White Cape beyond, is up in arms.  
I know a castle south of Jabbok flood,  
High up among the mountains, in the land  
Of Gilead.

"Adah. Land of balm when Reuben claim'd it,  
And even now a region of delight!  
You found it such, Hadassah?

"Hadassah. Of a truth,  
Like Reuben, I beheld with longing eyes  
The land, so green, so full of springs to freshen  
Each lowing hollow and each bleating height  
In Bashan, famous once for flocks and herds.  
I traced the stream or ranged the dewy glade,  
Or on the mountain hung above the cloud  
Delighted. Oaks are still in Bashan; berries  
Hang in ripe clusters; and the bough of the fig  
Is still a fruitful bough; wild olives yield  
Oil; and in Gilead balm again might ooze  
Out of the balsam-tree; and merry con  
Dance in the breeze, and wag its yellow beard,  
Could Israel sow in hope and reap in joy.  
But ever danger haunts our pleasant places,  
Or roves the wilderness that spreads between:  
What road is open to the land of balm?  
"Zarah. The desert, and the river, where the fords  
Flash on Bethabara; a difficult road.  
For strangers: but the men I lead are known;  
And wheresoever the black tents of Kedar  
Shadow the verdant herb by well or brook,  
They find a welcome: we have eaten salt  
And broken bread together; and have wrongs  
In common.

"Adah. Leave them to the time decreed!  
"Zar. As Moses left them when he smote th' Egyptian!

The time decreed, is when humanity  
Hears and obeys the voice that cries to heaven,  
The common instinct of self-preservation,  
Adah, prepare your father: I must hence  
To draw our force together: part, well arm'd,  
Lies in the shadow of the Temple-wall.

"Ad. Arm'd!

"Zar. To defend the right! Our rulers grudge us  
The mournful privilege of meeting here,  
And disallow a title dearly bought.  
They bluster idly: soldiers such as mine  
Tried in the fire,—and Ishmael's clouds of horse,  
And they who thunder over the Great Sea,  
Ranged on our side, outbrave the tyrannous blast:  
And then, remember, Judgment, though it wink  
At each oppression till the stars grow dim,  
Will not refrain for ever! O my country!  
My country! poor and wretched as thou art,  
I prize thee more than riches and renown;  
Hated, I love thee; wrong'd, I would avenge!  
And ye, whose eyes drop as the tears of dawn,  
I charge you, by the breasts which ye have suck'd,  
By grey-hair'd reverence, by love and duty  
To plead before the Judge of all the earth  
For Israel and for Judah. Cense to walk  
Over Jerusalem: these stones shall live  
Sooner than hope of her revival die.  
Pray for the people! Ask a Samson's arm  
To break the yoke from off their neck; a spirit  
To breathe on their dead heart. The dew of heaven  
Light on you both."



In some of the choruses there are lyrical pieces, in which the spirit of Hebrew poetry is caught, and allusions to the old national history skilfully introduced.

*The Gold Rocks of Great Britain and Ireland.* By John Calvert. Chapman and Hall.

SOME time ago a letter appeared in the pages of a facetious contemporary (not the 'Athenæum'), professing to give a full and particular account of the gold-diggings on Salisbury Plain. The document must have been a pilot-balloon to the volume before us, for its author, Mr. Calvert, professes to have found the true El Dorado at home! He has been in Australia, picking up nuggets by the dozen, travelling over "twenty-one thousand miles of its soil," not to speak of smaller excursions, turning up endless "auriferous sands, earths, veins," &c., and satisfying himself of the existence of no less than "four hundred and thirty-four thousand, one hundred and ninety tons, two cwt., seventy-six lbs." of gold, "which at 3*l.* 19*s.* per ounce, will be about 46,100,571,660*l.*" Mr. Calvert, when in Australia, had the good luck to find, "with very few exceptions," two hundred and thirty-eight gold quartz veins himself. One of them he traced "for nearly forty miles across the country," and calculated, if properly treated, to be capable of yielding "some millions sterling." He christened it "the Macquarie Vein." There is a story of a spiteful entomologist, who finding everything in Australia called after Governor Macquarie, except an undescribed bug, named his *Cimex C. Macquarrii*. We trust, for Mr. Calvert's sake, that the new offering to the tutelary deity of Antipodean mountains, rivers, streams, birds, beasts, and fishes, may not prove a bugbear. The contemplation of such prodigious riches appears to have awakened the true feelings of a Briton in our mineral surveyor, and instead of tempting him to remain in the land of gold, induced him to return to his native land, and to bring the diggings home with him. He has now planted them in Britain.

"In these pages," writes Mr. Calvert, "I have at any rate proved, beyond reasonable doubt, the existence of profitable gold workings in these islands, over a wide area, but I cannot yet answer for the total extent of the deposits." It is wonderful how many people knew about British gold when their attention was called to the fact of its abundance. "Many noblemen and gentlemen came to show me," says Mr. Calvert, "specimens of gold from their estates and mines; and some came up from very distant parts of the country to see and ask me to visit their property." The members of the Stock Exchange were equally obliging, and gave our author every information about "the nature of their workings," a true and certain knowledge of which, at the right moment, would, we are quite sure, enable much less intelligent persons than Mr. Calvert to get hold of considerable quantities of gold. "Many members of the press also took an interest in the subject"—a fact of which we entertain not the slightest doubt; we question, however, whether the gold mines in the possession of our brethren of the pen are particularly worthy of Mr. Calvert's attention, although his own peculiar method of exploring British gold mines and finding native nuggets has in the majority of instances been effected by paste, scissors, and goose-

quill. It is indeed astonishing, as the greater portion of his book will show, how large a quantity of British gold he has excavated from the pages of Petters, Plowden, Watson, Abbot, and various country histories. Mr. Hyde Clarke seems to have been the operative miner in this proceeding, and deserves high praise for the numerous and interesting odds and ends of auriferous intelligence that he has compiled after diligent literary research in the British Museum. It is but fair to say that Mr. Calvert has made many journeys of inquiry in various parts of Britain, with the view of satisfying himself about the presence and abundance of gold. It does not appear that he has personally found the precious metal in very profitable quantities, although, by a peculiar process of reasoning, a logic of his own, he makes quite sure of their existence. Because there are a dozen British gold mining companies at this time, and because gold undoubtedly exists here and there in British rocks, he maintains that the home government should at once commence the proper development of our auriferous resources, appoint salaried commissioners, selected, he "respectfully suggests," from those who "are at any rate desirous to find" gold—returned diggers, in other words; organise a department of commissioners for the issue of licences; abolish crown monopolies; adjust the claims of the crown, the landowners, and the public; issue licences to "thousands," and wash the sea-sands, a process which even our sanguine mineral surveyor admits to be "very questionable." We are sceptical enough, even after reading Mr. Calvert's book through, to say to ourselves, "first catch your hare," and to doubt whether we can afford to spend a sovereign in the extracting of seventeen shillings' worth of gold from British ores. We are foolish enough to put more trust in profitable returns than in picked specimens.

With his astonishing expertness in the discovery of gold Mr. Calvert ought by this time to be as rich as Croesus. A man who sallies out in the morning, carries off seventy-six pounds' weight of pure gold, value 3700 pounds sterling, (it swells to seventy-eight pounds in the middle of his book,) and considers the proceeding nothing very alarming, ought to grow into a millionaire in less than no time. The project for making the fortunes of the British public, revealed in this treatise on 'The Gold Rocks of Great Britain and Ireland,' is not the less generously offered, because Mr. Calvert might carry off all the spoil himself if he chose.

We wish our mineral surveyor would leave the word 'Geology' out of his writings. His scientific notions are, to say the least, exceedingly confused and obscure. He has got hold of the word, but has yet to learn its meaning, and the alphabet of the science. Like most 'mineral surveyors' in a similar condition, he writes very confidently and absurdly about geological matters. Whatever geology his brain contains at present, must be, to use one of his favourite terms, in *cryptothesis*, concealed or impalpably disseminated. Putting the sham science out of the question, his book is worth looking into, and cleverly written. It is exactly such a volume as will suit the table-turning intellect of the present age, and we should not be at all surprised if Mr. Calvert were to take as distinguished a position in his way as Mrs. Haydon did in hers. Seek where he will—hey! presto! there's the gold!

*The Priest and the Huguenot; or, Persecution in the Age of Louis XV.* From the French of L. Bungener. 2 vols. Trübner and Co.

IN noticing M. Bungener's former work, 'The Preacher and the King; or, Bourdaloue in the Court of Louis XIV.' (*ante*, p. 547), we spoke of its value as a historical and philosophical treatise, as well as its merit as a literary romance. The work of which this is a translation, is intended to illustrate another period of French history, from the commencement of the persecution of the Protestants under Louis XIV., down to the beginning of the age of infidelity in the middle of the seventeenth century. A third work, entitled 'Voltaire and his Times,' is about to be published, and a concluding romance, 'Julian; or, the End of a Century,' will complete the series of volumes, of which the design is to exhibit the principal religious aspects of France, from the age of Louis XIV. to the close of the last century. Of Louis XV. and his court, of Richelieu, Madame de Pompadour, of Diderot, D'Alembert, Helvetius, Voltaire, and the early contests of the philosophers of that school with the Romish Church, the historical records are woven into a striking and spirited narrative. Here is a sketch of 'the workshop' of the Encyclopedists:—

"About an hour before the moment when we saw Rabaut quit the Grève, a man, in his dressing-gown, was seated in a vast study. Before him was a table, loaded with papers; and on this table, against the wall, was a triple range of pasteboard boxes. You might read on one, *Articles to be written*; on another, *Articles to be distributed*; here, *Articles to be corrected*; there, *Articles finished*; there, *Correspondence*. A vast library occupied two sides of the apartment. Upon one of the most conspicuous shelves were seven folio volumes, magnificently bound.

"These folios were the seven first volumes of the Encyclopædia. This studying room, with the boxes, was the 'great workshop,' of which Voltaire called himself 'one of the journeymen,' except when he called it, on some other occasion, 'a great bear garden,' with which he was delighted to have nothing more to do. This man in the dressing-gown was the chief of the workshop; it was D'Alembert.

"Voltaire was not the only one, for that matter, who varied in his judgment in respect to the great work to which he brought his contribution; but, in reality, no one judged it with more severity or justice than himself.

"I am still enraged," he writes to the Count d'Argental, 'that the Encyclopædia should be degraded and disfigured by a thousand ridiculous articles, a thousand school-boy declamations, which do not deserve a place in the 'Mercury.' These are my sentiments, and parbleu! I am right.'

"I believe," he says in another letter, 'that the Encyclopædia will be continued; but it will probably finish still worse than it began, and it will never be anything but a great heap of rubbish.'

"I flatter myself," he writes Diderot, 'that you will admit no more such articles as that on Woman, or Pop, &c., nor so many vain declamations, nor so many puerilities and commonplaces without principles, definitions, or instructions.'

"Was this counsel heeded? 'The Encyclopædia,' writes Diderot himself, at a later period, 'was an abyss where all sorts of ragmen threw pell-mell an infinity of things, ill chosen, ill digested, good, bad, detestable, true, false, uncertain, but always incoherent and unsuitable.'

"With what object have we brought together these confessions—and from any one of the compilers of the Encyclopædia similar ones might be quoted? To prove that it was not a *chef d'œuvre*? But that was proved long ago, and, besides, the

work speaks plainly enough for itself. It would be curious and sadly instructive to bring into notice the manner in which these same men expressed themselves, when it was necessary to praise that as a whole, which they considered so bad in detail. The Encyclopedia was at that time the book of books, it was 'the most beautiful enterprise, the most beautiful monument of human genius;' it was the sacred ark around which in future the universe would bow, and which only fools, barbarians, and people unworthy of the name of men, could refuse to adore. Never had party spirit been more impudently sincere; never had the old adage, 'None are clever but we and our friends,' been more bluntly put forth, more pitilessly applied; never had the Church, at the height of her power, more boldly anathematized those who refused to bow to her infallible decrees. And of this party so united, this plan so concise, so closely followed out, the very existence, if necessary, could be denied. 'The most odious thing,' wrote Grimm, on the appearance of a pamphlet against the seventh volume, 'is to strive to represent the Encyclopedia as a party in the State, bound together by opinions and interests, while, out of fifty authors contributing to this work, there are not three who have the least intercourse with each other.' 'They accuse of plotting,' he says elsewhere, 'a little number of scattered philosophers, who occupy themselves in seeking truth without cabal, without intrigue, without ambition, without credit, the greater number without knowing each other.' And this, in all their apologies, was one of their most favourite themes. They sought truth, be it so, and we cannot say that they did not many times find it; but, after these and many other facts, it would be difficult to deny that they often looked upon falsehood as an excellent means of propagating it."

The chief interest of the story centres in the Huguenots, 'the church of the desert,' and in their able and intrepid leader, Rabaut. We give one passage where Rabaut describes the meetings of the Protestants—scenes exactly similar to the field-preachings of the Scottish Covenanters in the days of their persecutions:—

"But our real, our great festivals, are our meetings in the Desert. On this point our history is well enough known; I could tell you nothing that you do not know. But what I can assure you is, that all that can be related of them is rather below than beyond the truth. You must have lived among us, to have an idea of what an assembly is to our faithful ones, where they are to have a pastor, where they are to sing, pray, and be instructed in common. Never could a fête at Versailles be an object of more ambition, arrangements, and impatience above all, than many an one of our poor, humble assemblies, which is perhaps destined to send its pastor to the scaffold, the men to the galleys, and the women into prisons or convents for life. The arrangements are sometimes commenced two, three, six months beforehand. All must have notice of it, and yet nothing must transpire. If there is a rumour of any hostile project, all must be warned in time, for fear that some, as has often happened, should find soldiers where they looked to find their brethren. Thence comes an organization, which might be thought habitually plotted, but which has formed itself gradually, through the sole influence of danger. If we are sometimes several months in concerting the plan of an assembly, still one is often convoked and finished in a few hours. Often, upon arriving unexpectedly in some of our villages, I have had but to say a word to have around me, a short time after, in some retired valley, one or two thousand of the faithful. The convocations are arranged and distributed with a perfect regularity; the choice of a place, the disposition of sentinels, all is arranged with admirable art, or rather instinct."

"And yet, even in the most peaceful times, we can never be sure of finishing in quietness; never can one of the hearers be sure that a ball may not stretch him dead upon the very spot where he listens; and in our history, the list of these bloody

surprises is a long one. Four years ago, the 8th of August, some ten thousand at least were assembled in one of the deserts of Lower Languedoc. I was about to ascend the pulpit. Suddenly, on an eminence was perceived the uniform, but too well known, of the regiment of Brissac. Shots were fired, and not a ball missed in this compact multitude. They fled, cried, struggled. The soldiers reloaded their arms, and fired again, and this they repeated four times. They were but fifteen or twenty. One word from me, and they would have been torn to pieces. But no—that submission which I had constantly preached, I was able yet to recall, to impose upon these hearts boiling over with anger and indignation. We carried away our dead and wounded; and from the midst of the groups who fled, there still arose, here and there, the fragments of the interrupted psalm."

"Ah! how they penetrate the very soul at such moments, these rude songs of our forefathers! The psalms are our epic; and the most profoundly truthful epic which has ever been written or sung by any nation; an endless work, of which each of us becomes afresh the author; a sacred treasure, where are gathered beside our patriotic remembrances, the remembrances, hopes, joys, and griefs of each. Not a verse, not a line, which is not a whole history, or a whole poem. This was sung by a mother beside the cradle of her first-born; this was chanted by one of our martyrs, as he marched to his death. Here is the psalm of the Vaudois returning, armed, to their country; here that of the Camisards marching on to battle. This was the line interrupted by a ball; this was half murmured by an expiring father, who went to finish it among the angels. O our psalms!—our psalms! Who in human language could ever tell what you say to us in our solitudes, upon the soil crimsoned with our blood, and under the vault of heaven, from whose height look down upon us those who have wept, prayed, and sung with us!"

M. Bungener's work presents authentic history and important truth in a style of great liveliness, and with much dramatic effect.

*Terra Lindisfarnensis. The Natural History of the Eastern Borders.* By George Johnston, M.D. Edinburgh. Vol. I.—The Botany. John Van Voorst.

DR. GEORGE JOHNSTON, of Berwick-on-Tweed, has undertaken to write 'The Natural History of the Eastern Borders,' and the work could not have fallen into abler and fitter hands. In the first rank as a naturalist, he knows how to relieve the scientific details by charming descriptions and happy allusions, such as are at the command of a man of learning and taste. The volume now published contains the botany of the district, marine as well as terrestrial. Omitting the technical descriptions of plants, which are given in various British Floras, the author gives lists of habitats, provincial and local names, with notices of the customs, virtues, and uses connected with the plants, derived either from living testimony or antiquarian lore. It is pleasant to find a learned physician thus referring to the popular knowledge of simples by rural herbalists:—

"The local florist gladly escapes from the speculations and practice of science to the notice of traditional virtues attributed to these homebred simples by the observant dame, who, in almost every village, disputes the palm of skill with the regular practitioner, albeit she now relies less on them than she did in the days of a foregone generation. Still there live dames who will prepare you wormwood and mugwort for the young friend whose languor and pale complexion tell her of the cold obstructions that these sovereign remedies will restore; and the inexperienced mother is recommended to give wormwood, especially the sea-wormwood, and cakes and puddings tainted with tansy, to her vermigerous child."

The diuretic properties of the dandelion are familiarly known; and a decoction of the root of the burdock is in occasional use for the relief of gravel, and the removal of old eruptions and scorbatic spots from the skin. A decoction of the coltsfoot is often given than the doctor is aware of, in spring coughs and consumptions; and an ointment for stiff paste, made from an extract of the roots of this plant, to which Burgundy pitch and some other ingredients were added, was in great repute in Roxburghshire as a cure for sprains and all swellings about the joints. The roots of the butter-bur are used in Berwickshire, in a similar way, for curing white swellings on the knees. Tansy and milfoil were reckoned amongst plants averse to fascination; but we must retrograde two centuries to be present at the trial of Elsieph Reoch, who was supernaturally instructed to cure distempers, by resting on her right knee while pulling 'the herb callit melefour' 'betwix her mid finger and thombe, and saying of, In nomine Patris, Filii, et Spiritus Sancti.' The reputation the plant still retains may be only traditional, but certainly I have seen it gathered in handfuls, and on inquiry of an old infirm man so engaged, I was told that it was 'a grand thing for inward complaints.' The feather-fuilly owes its place in the cottager's garden to its former fame as 'a singular remedy for diseases incident to the matrix,' but now I cannot ascertain that it is ever used; and modern physick supplies, with all deference to Nicholas Culpeper, student in physick and astrology, more grateful antidotes to 'melancholy and sad thoughts.'"

The scientific nomenclature of the species is derived from the 'English Flora' of Sir James Edward Smith, with occasional variations from Mr. Babington's 'Manual,' and the 'British Flora,' as edited by Professor Arnott. The title of the book, 'Terra Lindisfarnensis,' is taken from the old bishopric of Lindisfarne, the limits of which nearly coincided with the district described as 'The Eastern Borders':—

"The Eastern Borders comprehend the whole of Berwickshire, the Liberties of Berwick, North Durham, and the immediately adjacent parts of Northumberland and Roxburghshire. Together they form a district of a nearly circular figure, about forty miles in diameter, and bounded by a tolerably distinct outline, which the eye can trace out from any commanding height within its area. Thus to the south, and on the verge of the sea, Bamborough Castle forms a conspicuous point, whence a ridge of basaltic hills runs westward to the Wam burn at the foot of the Spindleston rocks. The Wam leads us southwards, and through cultivated grounds, to the village of Wamford; and thence up the romantic dean in front of Twizell-House to the moors in which it has taken its origin. Descending from these heath-clad heights westerly, we reach the Till at its junction with the Roddam,—a burn which conducts us through corn and pasture lands partly, but chiefly through a deep and extensive ravine, into the recesses of the Cheviot hills. These constitute our extreme western boundary. They lead, in a beautiful series of rounded summits, to the hills above Yetholm in Roxburghshire. Thence the eye leaps easily from hill to hill until arrested by the peaked Eildons, which, in the distance, lapse almost insensibly into the Lammermuir range of less elevated heights, that continue our boundary line to the sea in the parish of Cockburnspath. The sea bounds the whole district on the east."

In a prefatory chapter, a detailed account is given of the geographical, geological, and topographical features of the district, with notices of its scenery, antiquities, and history. The country is described with the warm feeling of a borderer, who says "the district, as a whole, is as fair a one, to my partial eye, as ever gladdened the heart of man."

The land of 'the Tweed and its tributaries' has certainly a high place in poetry and



romance, and we cannot but admire the manner in which the naturalist connects his humbler researches with the spirit-stirring records of border chivalry, and the classical associations of the locality:—

"I was bound to the task by natural predilection, and by an inborn love which urged me on to illustrate and declare the riches of my native country. 'Trahit sua quemque voluptas.' I felt that in following out my plan to register every tree and grass and weed therein,—to know every insect, worm, fish, reptile, bird and beast that were its denizens,—I could not fail, at the same time, to discover its many pastoral,—its many sylvan,—its many landscape beauties which lie hid amidst its hills and denes, and hard by its waters. And there was the additional attraction of visiting spots which have been made for ever eloquent by the events of which they are the monuments, for the district is indeed rife with places that derive interest from historical recollections,—with everlasting hills whence arose the smoke of druidical sacrifices,—with hills whence was lifted the water of the baptism of the first converts to our Christianity,—with cairns, camps, and seats of regal and lordly power,—with ancient priories and cells and abbeys that are still our admiration,—with battle-fields of note,—with strong castles and towers and bastles,—with fairy traditions and love passages,—with much poetry and romance,—and with the birth-places of men who have risen above common humanity. I have indicated by short notices many of these memorabilia as I have gone on in my register, for specimens collected from them are to be treasured not more for their own peculiar value than for the reminiscences and thoughts which the spot gives life to."

The author is not alone in his enthusiastic love of Tweedside, along with diligent study of its natural history, the fame of the Berwickshire Naturalist's Club having travelled far, and often excited laudable envy of the pleasures enjoyed by its genial members. It includes some names high in the scientific world, to whom the summer rambles in the field afford an agreeable change from the more formal meetings of the learned societies. Dr. Johnston promises to give a history of the club, the success of which, he says, has been in some measure the result of the same negatives as those in the 'Friday Club,' celebrated in Lord Jeffrey's life, where he says, "we were troubled by no written laws, no motions, no disputes, no ballots, no fines, no business of any kind, except what was managed by one of ourselves as secretary." We must give to our readers a notice of one of the meetings of the club, incidentally introduced in the present volume, a pleasant picture of the pursuits of the field-naturalist, as enjoyed by a man of kindly feeling and buoyant spirit:—

"It was a beautiful May morning,—the first of May in the year of Grace forty-four,—when the 'Club' assembled at Etal, the loveliest village of our plain; and so gay and happy with its parterres and green lawn, and broad walks, and trees, and ruins, and the hall, that I wren a prettier village may not well be seen anywhere. It does one good to visit that florulent village; and the zephyr, full of fragrance, that came upon us, sunning from a thousand blossoms, gave a whet to the appetite, when the call to breakfast hurried us from these aerial essences to a substantial fare. The hearty and social meal over, we again sallied forth to saunter a-field, amid such wildernesses as modern agriculture permits,—in meadows and woods, in brakes and deans, and

'By shallow rivers to whose falls  
Melodious birds sing madrigals.'

And so away—all chatting—few listening,—the admiration of every ruddy-cheeked lass, and the wonder of every Colin Clout,—a queer group, as pined in dress, and cast in as many characters, as a strolling company; the clerical suit of sober black mellowed and relieved by the freckled and che-

quered sporting jackets that suit so well this holiday. The village is left; and the lane leads us by an abrupt turn, down to the rat-rat-rattling mill, all grey and dusty, and quite a picture, with the lusty miller leaning on the half-shut door, eyeing us complacently, while the two cats that bask at his feet seem to be half-alarmed at the novel rout. How hurriedly the water runs from beneath that heavy revolving wheel, as it were glad to have escaped from thralldom and from under the wheel of torture; and the eye seeks relief from the painful image in the cauld beyond, over which the river rolls itself, in a round and oily wave, into the linn beneath, where, fretted by the fall, it ruffles itself into a white foam, and murmurs, not loud and scarcely displeased, at the accident and delay! After a short whirling play, the water goes on in a smooth and placid flow, that, after a space, quickens into a tumbling, brattling stream, as if suddenly become conscious that it had dallied here too long, and must make up the lost time. We take the hint, and we start to follow the river, leading by a pathway, which the inscription, carved on a rock in rustic fashion, informs us was made by my Lord Frederick Fitzclarence,—not for our ease, who are all too regardless of a trespass. So onwards we saunter, changing companions as whim and chance dictate, now in front,—now lost in the rear,—now plucking a new variety of flower,—and now entrapping the gorgeous insects that flit about everywhere. The air is full of life, but 'twas unlucky to be so engaged just at this particular moment, for I cannot participate in that laugh which some story of Douglas's has provoked, and I lost the fun too for the sake of a fly that I have not captured! Onwards again—and now the wood is passed, when we cross, with a quicker pace, the open fields, and scarcely tarry at the queer little house and mill which is sunk as it were in the bank, over which the road is carried. But we greet the good woman who stands there, with her infant in her arm, all a-wondering at the throng; and our greeting is returned with a cheerful smile that bespeaks the good woman to be happy with her lot. And the opposite bank, covered with the bonnie broom, is sunny, and alive too, with yur-yurlings, and chirps, and melody; and the river is alive with the leaping trout and the up-and-down flies,—and it plays in its course with alternate streams and stills, rapids, and circling deep pools,—and the sun shines on all things, living and dead, and we know not what to say but that this is beautiful and fine, and we say this to one another very often, and never dream that we repeat a twice-told tale. Now a precipitous rock, partly quarried, and clothed with flowering sloes, with a golden whin or two, with hazel and budding hawthorn, with honeysuckle clambering amidst the shrubs, and with ivy that festoons the dark rock, and much varied herbage, draws us to remark with what successful art nature has grouped and mingled all this heterogeneous furniture, producing a very pleasing and picturesque effect with materials which, separately viewed, are of a mean and regardless character. Turned by this rock, the river now runs in a rougher channel, banked on one side by a green pasture slope, while the steeper bank, along whose base we travel, is wooded with almost impenetrable shrubbery and trees of minor rank, where the varied botany that luxuriates in their shelter calls us to frequent admiration. The primrose and violet banks, the trailing ground-ivy with its modest flowers, the tall and graceful rush, the star-wort with its blossoms of vestal purity,—are all beautiful, and although often seen before, their beauty comes fresh and new upon us. I do love these wild flowers of the year's spring. And on we stroll—almost palled with sweets, and almost weary with loitering,—so that it is felt to be a relief, when a sylvan dean, that opens aside on our path, tempts us to trace its unknown intricacies and retreats. It is a dean without a name, but sunny and odorous, and silent. Here the brae glows with whin and budding broom,—there copsed with grey willows and alders, and every wild shrub and trailer;—here a gentle bank with its sward pastured by a lamb or two and their dams that

have strayed from the field above,—while opposite, a rough quarry contrasts, yet not disturbs, the solitude, for the prickly briars and weeds, that partially conceal the defect, tell us that it has been some time unworked. Now a sloe-brake gives shelter to every little bird which is seen flitting out from its shelter stealthily, and stealthily returning; and the lark sings and soars above; and the black-bird alarms the dean with its hurried chuckle. And as we near the top, we find a grove of elms, and poplars, and willows, which hang partly over a little shallow linn formed by a rill that has fallen in a gentle stream over a moss-grown shelf of rock; and then the water steals, more than half-hidden, down the grassy bed of the dean. The quietness of the place begins to influence us all,—the conversation assumes a subdued tone, and some are evidently meditative, when the current which the thoughts of some young dreamer amongst us has taken, is marked out visibly by the question that is asked,—'What is the blewart of Hogg?'—No one—nor old, nor young—has thought the question abrupt or out of place, but we enter upon it as if the scene had suggested it, and made our young friend its spokesman. 'What is the blewart in Hogg's beautiful pastoral?'—'Why the blewart must be the same as the blaver or blawort—the Centaurea cyanus.'—'Nay! that cannot be: the Centaurea is a corn-field weed,—an autumnal flower,—nor is it a sleeper at eventide. Let us hear the verse.'

'When the blewart bears a pearl,  
And the daisy turns a pea,  
And the bonnie lucken-gowan  
Has faultit up her ee,  
Then the lavrock frae the blue lift,  
Drops down, and thinks nae shame  
To woo his bonnie lassie  
When the kye comes hame.'

'Very well! my good fellow,—the blewart grows there at your feet, and its first blossoms are giving blue eyes to that sunny hillock. The blewart is the Veronica chamaedrys: its blossom is the pearl, when at eve the flower has closed, and turned upon us the pale glaucous underside of its petals: it is the companion of the daisy and lucken-gowan: it is the ornament of the dean without a name.'—After a little more light discussion the demonstration appears complete; and we feel that there is more interest, and as much utility, in settling the nomenclature of our pastoral bards as that of old herbalists and dry-as-dust botanists."

We can only afford space for another short paragraph with which the section on marine botany concludes:—

"There are zones of vegetation on our shores marked by peculiar species, but the limits are rather loosely defined, and the species frequently intermingle. The Fucoidae occupy, with their blackness, all the space between low and high water marks, living an amphibious sort of life, alternately exposed to the atmosphere, and covered by the tide. The proper Fuci form the outer band of the zone, while the Halidrys and Himanthalia appear principally on its inner or sea margin; and the greater portion of sea-weeds intermixed grow in the intermediate space, giving variety to the shore by their green and olive and purple fronds. The Laminariæ occupy a lower region, for they are strictly aquatic, and choose therefore a station not liable to be left dry at the reflux of the tide. You may see them, within the ledge of rocks that bounds our sea at its lowest ebb, floating on the heaving ocean, their broad dark fronds rising in the furrow of the wave and again dipping beneath on its swell, in a sort of luxurious motion that you almost envy. The day is sunny and tempting, and you approach nearer, admiring that singularly beautiful vegetation which crowds every crystal pool in the rocks you walk over; exceeding in beauty the plants of the earth. Often have I stood enraptured. There the Tangle shoots half across the deep basin,—one broad and smooth,—another like a ribbon, curled and crisped on the edges; the Sea-thongs and the Fuci hang drooping down the sides; numbers of feathery red, purple, and green confervæ and confervoid growths clothe the basin; corallines shoot up in plummy layers; and tufted



sea-weeds of lesser size and superior beauty to those coarser kinds that crowd the shore, look up to us from the water in many hues and forms. I do love these sea-weeds. And so you reach at length the sea; and you see amongst this forest of Tangle an undergrowth of serrated Fuci, Sea-thongs, Lavers and Dulse, while beautiful coloured Polysiphonia and others grow thick on the abrupt side of every overhanging rock. No spot is bare. Even the stalks of many of the Tangles are shaggy with delicate sea-weeds,—such as I do believe the Mermaid selects wherewith to hang the walls of her favourite cove. This is certain, that the walls of some of our coves, as those in Holy Island, are clothed with a deep red velvet formed by the overlying filaments of the Polysiphonia ureolata."

An account of the fossil botany of the district is contributed by Mr. George Tate, F.G.S. The popular lecture, by Dr. Johnston, on 'Wild Flowers in their relations to Pastoral Life,' delivered at the Mechanics' Institute of Berwick-on-Tweed, is an acceptable addition to the volume. Nor must we omit to mention that the work is illustrated with drawings by Mrs. Johnston, the skill and taste of whose pencil are widely known from the beautiful plates in Dr. Johnston's 'History of Zoophytes.'

*Lays from the Mine, the Moor, and the Mountain.* By John Harris, a Cornish Miner. Simpkin and Marshall.

It is very rarely that in judging of a book we can take into consideration the circumstances of its production. Appeals are sometimes made for lenient criticism, on the score of an author's youth or occupations, but these are matters that ought to be considered previous to publication, and the critic has to deal with books as he finds them when they are submitted to public notice. We cannot admit, as apologies for what is worthless or objectionable, pleas which ought to have deterred from rushing into print at all. On the other hand, when we find that works of real merit have been written under outward disadvantages, it is difficult to refrain from taking this into account in bestowing the praise merited by their intrinsic worth. The poetry of Burns is regarded with increased admiration from our knowledge that it was the artless utterance of one who with his own hands held the plough. It is with the same feeling that we have read these 'Lays of a Cornish Miner,' which we are told are "the first compositions of an uneducated working-man." The lore of books he may not have, but there has been a higher education, through the knowledge of nature and the human heart, when we read such lines as these in a poem on The Love of Home:—

"'Twas one of England's ancient cottage-homes,  
Straw-roof'd, and clasp'd with ivy. Sweet woodbines  
Around the Gothic casements strangely crept,  
And o'er the porch the clustering roses hung;  
Beneath the eaves the sparrows built their nest,  
Upon the tree-top little robin sang,  
And sky-larks caroll'd o'er it merrily.  
Behind it, rose the mountain's ragged crest;  
Beside it, paced the shepherd with his crook;  
Below it, walk'd the murmuring rivulet.  
A bard might linger there, and hear old rhymes  
In every breezy murmur,—winds and waves,  
And silent-speaking flowers, and singing-birds,  
And tuneful breezes, harping on his ear!  
Delicious Home! beside thy blazing hearth  
What griefs are strangled, and what bruises heal'd!  
What loves, what friendships, cherish'd and matur'd!  
What poisonous thorns are rooted from the flesh,  
And quickly burnt to ashes! Little words,  
Conceiv'd within thee, travel on and on,  
Increasing on their earthly pilgrimage,  
Till they become the watchword of their day,  
The flashing oracles of mighty states,  
The awe of kingdoms, and great Europe's dread.  
They live and move for ever, till the last

Dire, awful death-roar of the universe;  
And then these little words appear again,  
In the bright daylight of eternity,  
Radiant with life and immortality!"

There is true poetry, too, in the author's apostrophe to his own old British birth-place, some of the lines of which we give:—

"There's not a hedge-row, gemm'd with ivy-leaves,  
There's not a furze-bush in my father's lea,  
There's not a sofa, with its seat of moss,  
Where the tired pilgrim sits in Nature's hall,  
And gazes on the portraits of past years;  
There's not a heath-bower in the dear old croft,  
Where the young Muses woo'd the singing boy,  
To list at evening to the harping breeze;  
There's not a wild nook where the tempests roar,  
Yelling their bass-blasts round the fire-scathed rocks;  
There's not a gash upon its furrow'd front,  
But seems even now a portion of my life!"

Hail to thee, mountain birth-place! Other scenes,  
In other lands, may press upon my ken,  
And flash before my vision; other hills,  
Lofty, majestic, mightier than thou,  
Forcing their snow-clad crests above the clouds,  
Where Winter sits and howls eternally,—  
Ay, other hills may fill my mind with awe,  
And startle me with wonder; but I'll turn,  
Even in the midst of this excitement turn,  
And fondly kneel upon thy crest again.  
Sickness may blast this feeble frame of mine,  
Or Want may clothe me in his ragged vest,  
The tree of friendship may be rooted up,  
The last bright star of earthly hope may fade,  
A prison's walls may hear the sufferer's groan,  
Old age may twine its fetters round my clay,  
A thousand happy memories may depart,  
But I shall ne'er forget thee, mountain-home!  
The sweetest spot of earth! my native place!"

Some of the minor poems are very pleasing in their strains, and with the revision which more refined art and maturer skill could afford, would be universally admired. Here are three stanzas from a short piece entitled *My Mother's Voice*:—

"I hear it in the busy throng;  
I hear it when alone;  
I hear it in the rock-ribb'd earth,  
The same melodious tone!  
I hear it when my heart is sad,  
I hear it when I'm gay;  
It floats around me everywhere,  
That sweetest voice for aye!"

"It leads me back when life was new;  
Tells of those happy hours  
I pass'd in childhood's sunny vale,  
Among the opening flowers;  
Talks to me of my mountain home,  
That home of homes to me,  
Engraven on my heart of hearts,  
For ever there to be!"

"The music of this voice I hear,  
Above the world's rough roar,  
Like whispers from another sphere,  
Some calm Elysian shore,  
Sweet harp-notes from the lyre of Time,  
Around me and within,  
They gush with conquering ecstasy  
To lure my soul from sin."

Much crudeness of style and many errors of taste the critic will find in the verses of this Cornish miner, but he has the heart of a true poet, and, what is better, of a devout and pious man.

#### NOTICES.

*The History of England from the Earliest Times to the Final Establishment of the Reformation.* By the Right Honourable Sir James Mackintosh. A new edition, revised by the Author's Son, R. J. Mackintosh, Esq. Longman and Co.

SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH prepared this work about thirty years ago for the 'Cabinet Cyclopædia,' corresponding histories of Scotland and of Ireland being contributed by Sir Walter Scott and Mr. Thomas Moore. As a general outline of English history the excellence of the book has been universally acknowledged. The design of the learned and accomplished author was to write an abridgement "useful as an introduction and convenient as a remembrancer, easily accessible for reference, and containing information of one people, which men of different pursuits, of little leisure, or of other countries, might think it necessary to have always within their reach." Particular attention was paid to the progress of the political institutions of the country, and the work presents an admirable

view of the history of the English government and laws. The author's studies and pursuits peculiarly fitted him for carrying out this design, and it was done in such a manner as to render the work one of our standard books of history. While the narrative is sufficiently detailed to include all the leading events of our national history down to the establishment of the reformed religion, the philosophical reflections and masterly comments of the narrator give a value to the work which no other history of the same period possesses. The present edition corresponds in form with the octavo editions of Macaulay's 'History,' and other standard works with which it is worthy to take its place. The editor has appended some documents which throw light on the closing chapter on the Reformation, a subject left unfinished by the author.

*The American Aboriginal Portfolio.* By Mrs. Mary H. Eastman. Illustrated by Captain S. Eastman, U.S. Army. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Grammo, and Co. London: Triibner and Co.

INTERESTING as a literary and artistic work, and valuable as a historical memorial, is this pictorial account of the aboriginal tribes of North America. In a series of wisely-chosen and well-executed sketches, many of the most striking points of Indian life and customs are described, and illustrated by expressive drawings. The designs are good, and the engraving is in a style superior to what is usually found in American books. The frontispiece, a portrait of Red Jacket, chief of the Senecas, is an admirable picture, and the account of the old man will be read with much interest. His life is, we fear, too typical of the history and fate of the whole Indian race. Whatever can be effected by Christian missions to raise their condition is now laudably attempted; but we believe that the real way of permanently benefiting the Indians will be the allotment of territorial possessions, within the pale, and possessing the privileges, of the American constitution. By intermarriages, and contact with older civilization, the peculiarities of the race will gradually pass away, and what is good in the aboriginal nature merge in the general national character. This was the opinion of the Ojibbewa chief, George Copway (we cannot trust ourselves to spell his Indian name from memory,) whose appearances two years ago in London testified to the capabilities of the race for taking part in public affairs. Mrs. Eastman expresses a hope that the scenes represented in her book may awaken deeper and wider interest in the fallen condition of this noble race. There are twenty-six engravings, with descriptive letterpress. Among the pictures are, a Dakota Village, Dakota Encampment, the Medicine Dance, Indian Burial, Indian Mode of Travelling, Indians in Council, Ball-play on the Ice, Sparing Fishes in Winter, Indian Women Procuring Fuel, and other subjects, as varied in character, representing marked features of aboriginal life. The volume is attractive in appearance as well as interesting in its subject, and we hope it may find its way to drawing-room tables in this country, as well as in the United States, where it is published.

*Letters of the Madiai, and Visits to their Prisons.* By the Misses Senhouse. Nisbet and Co.

THIS little volume contains a narrative of the trial and imprisonment of the Madiai, with an account of visits paid to Rosa in the gaol by the Misses Senhouse, and letters written by her to them and other kind friends. The circumstances of this disgraceful persecution are too well known to require any account of the book, further than to say that it confirms the received statements as to the injustice and cruelty of the treatment to which these poor Florentines were subjected, and as to the excellence of their character and conduct. Francesco Madiai seems to be a mild and estimable man, less remarkable for intellectual gifts than for moral worth. His wife Rosa, a Roman by birth, displayed a noble spirit as well as the milder Christian graces of character. Her letters, the originals of which are appended in Italian, are marked by vigorous thought and refined feeling, along with enlightened faith and earnest piety.

Mr. Maxwell Hanna, by whom the book is edited, says of Francesco Madiati, that "his calmness of judgment, his self-possession, his meek forgiving disposition, and his resoluteness in holding fast the truth, were beautiful throughout; though the quiet and diffident character of the Tuscan prisoner contrasted at times with the more intrepid and impetuous spirit of his Roman wife." Portraits are given, which are said to be correct likenesses. It was through the interference of Sir H. Bulwer, after much difficulty, that the Misses Senhouse obtained leave occasionally to visit them in prison. The Madiati are now free, but are forced to live in exile, and any profits of the sale of this publication will go to a fund for their support. The book, while it is valuable and interesting as a record of personal character, strikingly shows that the papacy retains its persecuting and intolerant spirit unchanged, but also happily proves that the faith and patience of the early martyrs are still found on the earth.

*The Principles of Currency and Banking, being Five Lectures delivered in Queen's College, Cork, in Hilary Term, 1853.* By Richard Horner Mills, A.M. Groombridge and Sons.

On the subject of the Currency, and on the Banking system, these lectures present clear and concise information, such as is desired by students of political economy, or by those who seek a general knowledge of commercial affairs. There are few topics connected with a national currency which are not referred to by Professor Mills, and on points which are open to controversy fair statements of the conflicting opinions are given, and the author's own views ably and candidly offered. The work is dedicated to Archbishop Whately, to whose enlightened liberality and public spirit Ireland is indebted for the study of political economy being introduced as a branch of college education.

*The Principles of Mental and Moral Training, and of Industrial Discipline.* By the Rev. Henry Smith, G. Cox.

The condition of the neglected and criminal portion of the juvenile population of this country is now attracting much notice. Whether separate establishments are to be provided for their remedial and correctional training, or whether a more special use of moral discipline is to be brought into the routine of ordinary schools, the recorded experience of the author of the present volume will be found of much public benefit. As the chaplain of the Government Juvenile Reformatory at Parkhurst Prison, in the Isle of Wight, he has had ample opportunities of observation, which have not been thrown away on a man of intelligent mind and benevolent spirit. The results of these observations, and of his reflections on them, are presented in this treatise on 'The Principles of Mental and Moral Training, and of Industrial Discipline.' The book contains remarkable facts in criminal statistics, as well as valuable educational suggestions.

*The Young Voyageurs; or, The Boy Hunters in the North.* By Captain Mayne Reid, author of 'The Boy Hunters.' Bogue.

This is a charming book for young people, and one from which they will derive instruction as well as amusement. Captain Mayne Reid takes the 'Boy Hunters' of his former tale into the fur countries of North America, and in their journey they meet with various adventures, in the account of which the natural history of the region forms the most prominent feature. The tale is in fact an admirable popular account of the fauna and flora of the fur regions of North America. Most of the chapters have headings such as these—A Swan Hunt by Torchlight, Encounter with a Moose, The Arctic Fox and White Wolf, Life in a Log Hut, A Battle with Wolves, and other sentences, showing the objects of natural history attractively mingled with the narrative. The book is illustrated with twelve wood engravings, from spirited designs by W. Harvey.

*The Shrine of Content; and other Poems.* By James Rawlings. Saunders and Otley.

THE repeal of the paper duty can hardly obtain our full advocacy if additional facility would thereby

be given for the publication of poetry such as that of Mr. Rawlings. The expense of printing a book may sometimes prove a hindrance to popular knowledge and a hardship to an author, but it also often serves as a protection to the public against overwhelming inroads of trash, not to mention the labours of critics and reviewers. 'The Shrine of Content' is a long poem in five cantos, of which the following lines may suffice as a specimen:—

"Contemplation too is a mean whereby  
To find content, teaching ineffably  
The littleness of all the schemes of man,  
And instability of things human.  
By her assistance may we learn to feel,  
What distant flights to realms empyreal  
The spirit takes, on fancy's silver wings,  
Beyond where yon gay lark so sweetly sings.  
Imagination! thy fields of delight  
Are far beyond the reach of all the blight  
Which spoils the labours of our honest swains!  
There 'mid the throng of many festal trains,  
Deck'd with the choicest flowers of the spring,  
May we assist each solemn offering,  
Made by the Dryads, to Diana's shrine,  
Delanny, poppies, and flow'rs of woodbine  
(Such as Endymion bound in a braid,  
To win the favours of that chary maid)  
The fair votaries of the goddess bring:—  
'Tis sweet to look on such a gathering,  
And most ecstatic to hear them sing."

The very first couplet of the poem shows that the writer has not the slightest knowledge of metre or ear for harmony:

"O lov'd of Heaven, Parent of delight!  
Ethereal stranger, thou unseen spirit!"

In a volume of a hundred and fifty pages there could hardly fail to be a few good lines, but the greater part of the poetry is destitute alike of rhyme or reason. In all kindly feeling we counsel Mr. Rawlings to make better use of his time than in writing verses, and more use of his money than in printing them.

*Outlines of Universal History; for the Use of Schools.* Edited by Henry White, M.A. and Ph.D. of Heidelberg. Oliver and Boyd.

As an elementary manual of universal history, this is a most concise and complete school-book. Dr. White has already signalized himself by his historical researches, and in his 'Elements of Universal History,' and 'History of Great Britain and Ireland,' has supplied useful popular treatises. The facts in the 'Outlines' are judiciously selected, and the author's comments and remarks are made in a spirit which lead us heartily to commend his book for educational use.

*Avillion, and other Tales.* By the author of 'Agatha's Husband.' Smith, Elder, and Co.

THESE volumes contain a collection of tales by one of our most pleasing writers of fiction. Many of them have already appeared in the columns of 'Fraser,' 'Bentley,' the 'Dublin University,' and other magazines and periodicals, and are now reprinted, with additional stories. The first of these, 'Avillion,' selected as the title to the work, is a wild dreamy romance, with fine passages, but less striking than the quiet domestic narratives and tales of the feelings, in which the author excels. The variety of subjects prevents our giving more than a general notice, expressing our appreciation of the agreeable style and the excellent spirit of the book. In some of the pieces, there is a liveliness and humour, and in others a pathos and geniality, excelled by few female writers of the present day.

#### SUMMARY.

OF Tegg's Dictionary of Chronology (Tegg and Co.), there is a new edition, the fifth, enlarged, revised, and improved. All such compilations are more or less arbitrary in the selection of memoranda, but this dictionary, from its size and arrangement, includes a large amount of valuable information. The facts are confined to modern history,—from the commencement of the Christian era to the present time. It is a useful book of reference, so far as it goes, but many of the entries are very meagre and unsatisfactory, as, for instance, "Canning, George, statue of, erected in Palace-yard, Westminster, May 2, 1832," not a word or a date about the statesman during his life. "Coventry, peep-

ing Tom of," has a long paragraph allotted to him, while Luther and the Reformation are disposed of in two lines. The book may still be greatly improved, without being enlarged, and might be usefully submitted to other revision before another edition is prepared.

Under the title of *Benedictions; or, The Blessed Life* (J. F. Shaw), the Rev. Dr. Cumming has published a series of discourses on various subjects of experimental religion. The book is marked by the soundness of doctrine and attractiveness of style conspicuous in all Dr. Cumming's pulpit discourses. A second edition is issued of *Two Lectures on the Influence of Poetry on the Working Classes*, by the late Rev. F. W. Robertson, of Brighton (Henry S. King, Brighton). A brief prefatory notice of the author is prefixed, in which the character of this accomplished and earnest clergyman is truthfully expressed, and his efforts for the mutual and moral elevation of the working classes feelingly referred to.

Mr. Augustus Petermann in a tract *Die letzten Tage Dr. Adolf Overbeef's*, has paid a graceful tribute to the memory of his enterprising and worthy compatriot, with interesting notices of the African expedition in which he was engaged at his death.

*A Plea for the Enforcement of a Knowledge of the Hebrew Scriptures* (Hope and Co.), upon candidates for holy orders, by W. Drake, M.A., Hebrew examiner in the University of London, makes out a good case for a competent knowledge of the original language of the Old Testament being required in all clergymen of the Church of England previous to ordination. This is the case in all other Protestant churches, and even among most of the dissenting denominations.

The third volume is published of *Sermons by the Rev. W. H. Krause, of Dublin* (Herbert, Dublin), edited by the Rev. Prebendary Charles Stuart Stanford, A.M. The theological depth and scriptural clearness of these discourses we have praised in noticing the previous volumes at the time of their publication.

Under the title of *Chalmeriana; or, Colloquies with Dr. Chalmers*, by Joseph John Gurney (Bentley), are reprinted in separate form the reminiscences of Chalmers, which appeared lately as an appendix to the 'Memoir of Bishop Bathurst, of Norwich,' the townsman of Mr. Gurney. Sir George Sinclair, Bart., in a historical sketch, *Two Hundred Years of Popery in France, from 1515 to 1715* (Johnstone and Hunter, Edinburgh), has given an outline of the history of Protestantism in France, from the Reformation to the times of persecution following the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. The narrative, while it presents a melancholy record of Popish intolerance and cruelty, contains striking memorials of the Christian virtues of many who hold a high place in the story of 'the noble army of martyrs.' To the treatment of the Huguenots in the seventeenth century may be attributed many of the subsequent calamities which fell on the nation, and the lessons of past history as displayed in this narrative are full of instruction and warning for present times. Part III. of *Jottings of an Old Woman of Eighty* (W. N. Wright), concludes the series of these agreeable and serviceable sketches.

*Henry's English Grammar*, edited by the late T. Kerchever Arnold (Rivingtons), is an excellent manual of grammatical instruction for beginners. The progressive lessons and exercises are prepared with judgment, and are well calculated to lead the student to correct and intelligent use of the language.

A new treatise on *Cookery, Rational, Practical, and Economical*, by Hartelaw Reid (Menzies, Edinburgh), professes to be founded on philosophical principles, and to connect the practice of the art with 'The Chemistry of Food.' It is a plain useful book on the subject.

For the use of schools and families, *Scriptural History Simplified* (Dean and Son), by Julia Corner, revised by John Kitto, D.D., is a summary of Bible history, in the form of question and answer. The work is valuable, as might be ex-

pected from the names on the title-page, but excepting on particular topics, on which recent researches and discoveries have thrown light, we still prefer the old Scripture history of Dr. Watt's, as a manual of instruction. The absence of references to passages of Scripture is a defect in Miss Corner's book which ought to be supplied in future editions.

In the 'Traveller's Library' (Longman and Co.), the last number, the 51st., contains the journal of *An Attic Philosopher in Paris; or, a Peep at the World from a Garret*, from the French of Emile Souvestre, one of the most pleasing pieces of light literature which has appeared of late years in France. In style and manner the book is thoroughly Parisian, such as might belong to a writer of the best order of *feuilletonistes*, but there is a tone of genial sentiment and quiet philosophy, reminding English readers of the finest passages of Sterne and Dickens. We are not surprised that the work "obtained the crown from the French Academy."

Under the title of *Golden Dreams and Leadens Realities*, by Ralph Raven (Sampson Low, Son, and Co.), an animated account is given of adventures at the gold diggings, and in other regions of the New World. The book contains striking pictures of some of the wilder phases of modern American life.

The Rev. George Gilfillan, author of 'The Bards of the Bible,' has published a little treatise *The Grand Discovery; or, the Paternal Character of God* (Blackader and Co.), full of bold and striking thought, expressed in the author's usual fervid style. The most interesting part of the work is that which asserts the incompetency of natural religion to discover the true character of God, which man owes to revelation alone.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Arnold's Greek Prose, Part 1, 8th edition, 8vo, cloth, 5s. 6d.  
 Art Journal, 1853, 4to, cloth, £1 11s. 6d.  
 Barlow (W. F.) on Fatty Degeneration, 12mo, cloth, 4s.  
 Bartlett's (C. A.) Pilgrim Fathers, royal 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
 Brooke's (R.) Liverpool 1775 to 1800, royal 8vo, cloth, £1 5s.  
 Chambers's Educational Course: English Grammar, 12mo, 2s.  
 — Latin-English Dictionary, 5s.  
 — Journal, Vol. 20, cloth, 4s. 6d.  
 Chilcott (W.) on Evil Thoughts, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 Christie's (James) Elements of Practical Astronomy, 8vo, 7s.  
 Cumming's (Dr.) Christ our Passover, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 D'Aubigny's Reformation, translated by White, 8vo, sd., 5s.  
 — 5 vols in 1, 8vo, cloth, 8s.; gilt, 9s.  
 — Vol. 5, 12mo, cloth, 3s.; sd., 2s. 6d.  
 Devotional (A) Diary, fcap, 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
 Duncan, (Dr. J. F.) on Popular Errors on Insanity, 4s. 6d.  
 Elwe's (R.) Sketcher's Tour Round the World, 8vo, £1 1s.  
 Family Treasury, 8vo, cloth, Vol. 1, 2s.  
 Fanny and Her Mamma, 2nd edit., 2s. 6d.; coloured, 3s. 6d.  
 Favourite Picture Book, coloured, folio boards, 7s. 6d.  
 Flotam and Jetsam: a Cargo of Christmas Rhymes, 5s.  
 Gough's Cruet Stand; Select Pieces of Prose & Poetry, 2 v., 15s.  
 Guizot's Popular Tales, fcap, 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
 Gutch's Scientific Register, 1854, 3s. 6d.  
 History of the Session 1852-3, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
 Jerdan's (W.) Autobiography, Vol. 4, 12mo, cloth, 6s.  
 Juvenile Magazine, 1853, post 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d.  
 Knight's English Cyclopædia—Geography, Vol. I., 10s.  
 — Natural History, 10s.  
 — Half Hours, 2 vols. 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.  
 Lamartine's History of the Constituent Assembly, Vol. 1, 6s.  
 Lang's (John) Wetherbys, fcap, 8vo, boards, 4s. 6d.  
 Lee's (R.) Anecdotes of Animals, 2nd edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
 Lizar on Treatment of Stricture of the Urethra, 3rd ed., 5s.  
 Lodge's Peerage and Baronetage, 1854, royal 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.  
 Lyell's (A. W.) Torbaniell Case, 4to, sewed, 7s. 6d.  
 Marryat's Children of the New Forest, 4th edition, 5s.  
 Milton's Paradise Lost, half morocco, £1 11s. 6d.; 4to, £3 3s.  
 Montgomery's Christian Life, 6th edition, 32mo, cloth, 4s.  
 Nugent's (E.) Mary Ashton, fcap, 8vo, cloth, 5s. 6d.  
 Peile's Annotations, Vol. 1, Part 1, Romans, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 Pickmere's (J. R.) Being Analytically Described, 4to, £1.  
 Picture Book for Young People, 4to, half cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 Record (A) of Grace, fcap, 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 Reid's Cookery, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 Retrospective Review, Vol. 1, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.  
 Revelations of Siberia, 3rd edition, 2 vols. post 8vo, 16s.  
 Self-Explanatory Bible, 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
 Shipmaster's Guide, 12mo, sewed, 2s. 6d.  
 Smedley's Fortunes of the Colville Family, reduced, 2s. 6d.  
 Smith's Manual of Equity Jurisprudence, 3rd edition, 10s.  
 — Sacred Annals, Vol. 3: The Gentile Nations, 12s.  
 Sterne's Physical Geography, 3rd edition, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
 Struggles for Life, post 8vo, cloth, 6s. 6d.  
 Syme on Rectum, 3rd edition, 8vo, cloth, 4s. 6d.  
 Tennyson's Poems, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 9s.  
 Todd's (J.) Summer Gleanings, 12mo, cloth, 2s.  
 Trench on the Miracles, new edition, 8vo, boards, 12s.  
 True Stories from Ancient History, 11th edition, 12mo, 5s.

Williams's Sermons on the Epistles and Gospels, 2 vols. 11s.  
 Wilson's Life and Adventures, 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 — Voyage Round Scotland, 2 vols., reduced, 10s. 6d.  
 Wohler's Handbook of Inorganic Analysis, 12mo, 6s. 6d.  
 Wood's (G. A.) Poems, crown 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Wordsworth's Greece, imperial 8vo, morocco, £2 2s.

## ARTISTIC COPYRIGHT.

A PAMPHLET has just appeared from the pen of D. Robertson Blaine, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, entitled 'The Laws of Artistic Copyright and their Defects' (Murray), to which it may be as well to invite attention, as touching a subject affecting the interests of a very large and rising class of the people. Much has been done during the last few years towards the improvement of art and design in this country, and their application to manufactures, but no sufficient means have as yet been adopted by the legislature for securing to the artist or designer the profit of his invention. The chief obstacle in the way of defence against piracy and innovation arises out of the great and vexatious expense of litigation. In the report of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed in 1836, to inquire into the best means of extending a knowledge of the arts and of the principles of design among the people, especially the manufacturing population, &c., it was especially noted that "the expensiveness of a remedy through the courts of law or equity is a virtual bar to invention, and almost affords impunity to piracy," and that "the most obvious means for the protection of invention appears to be the constitution of a cheap and accessible tribunal." A recommendation made in the same report for a system of registration has been carried out, and as many as 95,000 designs have since been registered, but nothing has been done "for the further protection of copyrights in the shape of a cheap accessible tribunal." It is to this point that Mr. Blaine's pamphlet chiefly refers, and the remedy he proposes is, that reference should be made compulsory.

"The time has now arrived when reasons of policy and justice alike demand that the literary, artistic, and other inventive talent of the British people should be better cared for than it has been hitherto; and the proprietors of Copyrights, whether British or foreign, no longer exposed to the delays and costs in protecting their property, which are entailed upon them by the existing laws. Productions of the human intellect, which ought as such to be deemed worthy of the highest consideration, should at least have the same legal value as any other kind of personal estate.

"The law recognises copyright as property; and yet, while it is justly deemed a criminal offence to steal a man's purse, it is not a criminal offence deliberately to rob him of his copyright, even in the most wilful and manifest case of piracy.

"But such is the peculiar and difficult nature of copyright questions, especially in cases of only partial infringement, that effectual protection and justice for the proprietors of such property is only to be obtained by the adoption of the suggestion made by the Committee of the House of Commons on arts and manufactures, namely, by the establishment of a cheap and accessible copyright tribunal. What that tribunal should be, is the difficulty to be solved, and it may perhaps be found that arbitrators to be chosen by the litigant parties would be at least the most satisfactory to them, in the majority of cases, if not the best. Armed with powers to decide between the plaintiff and defendant, many an unjust proceeding would thus be nipped in the bud; and if the arbitration were conducted without unreasonable delay, time, anxiety, and costs would also be saved; and oftentimes the hostile parties reconciled,—an event of somewhat rare occurrence in the history of litigation where it is prolonged to much extent, but which, apart from higher motives, is often of the deepest importance to the character and interests of the litigants and their families.

"Instances are constantly arising where the injustice of one of the parties alone prevents the case being referred to arbitration at the commencement of litigation, and which, after very heavy

costs have been incurred, is, at the suggestion of the judge, or for some less cogent reason, referred immediately it comes on for trial.

"It would therefore seem most advisable that the courts should be empowered to compel a reference in any such case, at any stage of the proceedings, upon such terms as they should see fit to meet the requirements of the case.

"The result of such an enactment, in addition to the advantages before alluded to, would, it is believed, in most cases, prove an efficient protection to the owners of copyright, and the consequent advancement of art and literature. Considering the inherent love of justice, and the habits of liberty and self-government of the British people, there seems good reason to believe that compulsory arbitration in all copyright cases would work most satisfactorily to the parties litigant, because they would themselves have the means of selecting those persons to decide their case whom they considered most competent to form a sound conclusion upon the subject of the injury complained of,—and should any question of law arise, the opinion of one of the courts might be taken upon it, as a special case, in a most inexpensive way.

"Upon the whole, therefore, such a system of compulsory arbitration would probably be found the nearest approach that, at present, can be safely made to the efficient, cheap, and accessible tribunal required in all disputes as to copyright property."

Mr. Blaine's pamphlet contains a great deal of valuable detail on the subject of copyright in designs, etchings, engravings, maps, charts, plans, &c., and in works of sculpture, backed by a good array of authorities and reference to particular cases, in notes, and it is well worth the perusal of all artists, sculptors, engravers, designers, and printsellers. To give an idea of the number of persons occupied in this country in the higher branches of art alone, Mr. Blaine has collected the following statistics from the London Picture Exhibition catalogues of the present year:—

	Objects.	Artists.
1. Winter Exhibition of Artists' Sketches and Drawings . . .	280	129
2. British Institution . . .	589	388
3. Portland Gallery . . .	410	115
4. Suffolk Street . . .	750	349
5. Old Water Colour . . .	309	48
6. New Water Colour . . .	365	57
7. Royal Academy . . .	1465	866
Total	4168	1952

"Besides this large number of objects exhibited, there are hundreds of works annually refused at the various exhibitions for want of sufficient space—there are also annual exhibitions of pictures and other objects of art in many of the large towns in England, as well as in Edinburgh and Dublin—and yet the whole of the objects so exhibited form but a very small amount of those annually produced in the United Kingdom, of which engravings of all descriptions form a large proportion."

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

AMELIA OPIE, widow of John Opie, R.A., died last week at her residence, on the Castle Meadow, Norwich, at the advanced age of eighty-four, having survived the painter a period of nearly half a century. The deceased lady was a daughter of the late Dr. Alderson, an eminent physician in the same city, and sister of Mr. Baron Alderson. She married Mr. Opie in 1784, and from a very early period of her life devoted herself to literary pursuits, her efforts being principally directed to the composition of works of fiction and moral tales. Her productions were chiefly admired for their simplicity and cordiality. Her career as a novelist commenced in 1805, in which year she published 'Adeline Mowbray,' and extended down to 1834, when her 'Lays for the Dead' issued from the press. In the course of this long period she published amongst other works 'Detraction Displayed,' 'Father and Daughter,' 'Illustrations of Lying,' 'Madeline,' 'Temper,' 'Valentine's Eve,' and



several series of tales and poems. The 'Illustrations of Lying' were, perhaps, her happiest effort. From 1834 to the present year, Mrs. Opie had lived in the strictest retirement; and for the last twenty-five years of her life she was a member of the Society of Friends. Revered as a relative, and respected as a friend, it may be said with truth, that throughout her long and exemplary career she adhered steadily to the love and inculcation of whatsoever things were just and honest, and of good report.

Gratifying news have just been received from Dr. Vogel, of the Central African Expedition, written on the eve of his departure from Murzuk to Lake Tsad, which was fixed on the 12th of October last. He hoped to reach the latter in the beginning of the present month. During his prolonged sojourn at Murzuk of upwards of sixty days, Dr. Vogel's health continued in the most satisfactory condition, though the unhealthiness of that place is notorious. The delay at Murzuk was owing to the Bornuese prince, under whose protection Dr. Vogel was to travel as far as Bornu, but the time was usefully employed in surveying the surrounding country, and reducing the astronomical and other observations. No further communications had as yet been received by Dr. Barth, and it is presumed that he was out of reach of the courier bringing the news of the additional force under Dr. Vogel, and that he has continued his journey to Timbuktu. It is hoped that by this adventurous enterprise, and by presenting himself before the Sultan of the Fellatah empire at the court of Sakatu, Dr. Barth will have been able to secure the goodwill and protection of that mighty nation for his present objects, as well as for future enterprises that may lie within the Fellatah dominions. In this way it is hoped that his bold undertaking will be of immediate benefit to the steam-boat expedition, which is to be dispatched from this country next spring. One of the first objects of that expedition will be to reach that magnificent country Adamana, and this being a province of the Fellatahs, the friendship of the latter will be of some importance to the success of the expedition.

The Abbé Cochet, Inspector of Historical Monuments of the Seine-Inférieure, so well known for his researches in France among the cemeteries of the Gallo-Roman and Merovingian period, announces for publication a work in octavo, under the title of 'La Normandie Souterraine,' in which he proposes to give the result of his experience in that department of archæology. It is a somewhat singular fact that France, so much alive to the importance of classical antiquities, remained so long dead to those which are peculiarly her own—namely, the remains of the Frank period. For some time her savans were disinclined to believe that the weapons and personal ornaments found in the Frank graves of Envermeu and Londinieres were of the period to which they are now ascribed; but they are at length sensible of their value, the hint having doubtless been conveyed to them by the researches of our English antiquaries in Anglo-Saxon burial-grounds. The Abbé proposes to divide his work into three parts; the first to sepulchres in general, the second to the Roman and Gallo-Roman cemeteries in Normandy, and the third to the Frank and Carlovingian cemeteries of Londinieres, Parfondval, and Envermeu. The volume is to be published by subscription, and will appear during the present winter.

Last week, at Glasgow, died James Ewing, Esq., of Levenside, formerly Lord Provost of Glasgow, and Member of Parliament for that city. As a citizen and a merchant he was a man of public spirit, great influence, and princely munificence, while his literary accomplishments were conspicuous, and he had the honorary degree of LL.D. conferred on him by the Senatus of the Glasgow University. He was a man of refined taste in the fine arts, of which he was a generous patron. To many scholars and artists of talent and genius he gave opportune and delicate encouragement, and on this account his name deserves honourable mention in the re-

cords of literature and art, as well as of general philanthropy. He was in his seventy-eighth year.

Sales of autographs are announced in Paris; but a sort of disrepute attaches to these transactions in consequence of the fraudulent and fabricated documents which have been impudently palmed off in them as originals, and in consequence also of some of them having been made the vehicle for the promulgation of private scandal. The government, however, has resolved to keep a sharp watch over them; so that abuses, if not entirely prevented, will at least be diminished. Some of the private correspondence of the marshals and ministers of Napoleon has been lately, or is about to be, offered for sale. In it several valuable and many very curious gossiping letters are to be met with. A selection of Marshal Marmont's papers is in a few days to be offered to the public. It contains several letters to him from Wellington, and amongst them a very long one written fourteen days before the battle of Waterloo. The following extract will give an idea of the latter epistle:—"The principle on which you rely is generally a true and good one—an honest man cannot serve in the ranks of the enemies of his country. We, however, are the enemies of a single man and his adherents; of a man who has exercised his influence over the French army to overthrow the throne of the king in order to subjugate France, and to revive for all of us the days of misfortune from which we believed we had escaped. We are at war with him, because we feel that we cannot be at peace. It is the misfortune of France to become the theatre of the war which this man renders necessary, and of which he is the cause and the object; but it must not be believed that the war is directed against her; the contrary is the case. Although I admit with you that you do well to go away for a time, I do not advise you to stop too long."

Captain Warner, whose name has been so much before the public in connexion with warlike inventions, died this week. Of the value of some of Mr. Warner's inventions, especially his explosive shells, there is little room for question, after the testimony borne by distinguished naval officers, who have witnessed their efficacy; but the almost exclusive notice drawn to the alleged 'Long Range,' brought popular ridicule on the whole of Captain Warner's proceedings. Some of his inventions still deserve the consideration of scientific and of public spirited men, although no government or official proceedings are likely to be taken on the subject.

The 'Journal des Débats,' of Paris, of Wednesday, contains a long communication, dated "British Museum, London," and signed "William Jones," giving an account of, and copious extracts from, a rare and valuable book on the persecutions of the Protestants in France during Louis XIV.'s time, and especially at Orange, the town in that country which was subjected, and gave a title to, the Prince of Orange. This book is a translation from the French of Chambrun, Protestant pastor at Orange, and was printed at London in 1688. In calling attention to it at this juncture, Mr. Jones renders a great service to the cause of historical truth—for, of late, certain zealots of the Roman Catholic Church in Paris have had the audacity to maintain that the persecution of "our brethren in the faith" in France, after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, was much less severe than has generally been imagined—that, in fact, it was perfectly anodyne, and did not deserve to be called a persecution.

The small but very choice collection of Roman and English coins, collected by the late Mr. Christopher Edmonds, is, we hear, about to be brought to public sale. Mr. Edmonds, like his late brother, whose cabinet was disposed of by auction some years ago, was not renowned for Numismatic lore, but his collection is equally choice, and contains specimens in an unexampled state of preservation. Of late years our English collectors have become fastidious; they will scarcely deign to notice coins which are not in the choicest state, and this seems peculiarly to have been the case with Mr. Edmonds.

On the 2nd. inst., the monument to the memory

of David Macbeth Moir, the lamented 'Delta,' was inaugurated at Musselburgh. An address was to have been delivered by Professor Aytoun of Edinburgh, but he was unable from indisposition to be present, and the Rev. Mr. Beveridge, the minister of the parish, an intimate friend of Dr. Moir, briefly addressed the assembled people. The monument, of which Mr. Ritchie is the sculptor, consists of a statue eight and a half feet high, on a pedestal twenty feet in height. The effect is striking, and the likeness excellent. The inscription to be placed on the pedestal is as follows,—"In Memory of David Macbeth Moir, beloved as a man, honoured as a citizen, esteemed as a physician, and celebrated as a poet. Born 5th January, 1798; died 6th July, 1851."

The 'Gazette' announced, some time ago, that a sum of 4000*l.* had been left to the Institute of France, to be given to the discoverer of a cure for the Asiatic cholera; the annual interest of the sum to be awarded to those who may do most to relieve the terrible malady. The acceptance of the legacy has just been authorised by imperial decree. It is a gentleman named Breaud who has bequeathed it.

The destiny of the Fawcett collection of Anglo-Saxon antiquities is by this time decided, and we shall soon learn whether they are to be the property of the nation or of some private individual. We have heard it whispered that rather than they should leave the kingdom an offer has been made for them by an English nobleman of high rank. It has been very erroneously stated that this collection is inferior to those of Lord Lonsborough and the Hon. Mr. Neville (see 'Athenæum' of last week), whereas, on the contrary, it is vastly superior, and the objects perhaps nearly ten times more numerous. There are nearly a score of those beautiful flat circular fibulæ (of which a specimen, discovered in a grave at Abingdon, in Berkshire, may be now seen in the British Museum), found principally in Kent, several examples of drinking vessels, and a vast number of other relics. Should the collection happily reach the British Museum, we may hereafter give some account of it.

A few days ago, a farmer ploughing in a field, discovered an urn filled with Roman coins. The foot of one of the horses suddenly sunk into the earth, and on investigating the cause, it was found that the animal had trodden directly on a large urn, containing upwards of three thousand pieces of coin, of the age of Diocletian and Maximian. They are said to weigh more than one hundred weight. We are informed that the vessel which contained them was placed upon the rock, and that a little below the surface human bones were discovered, but we hope to receive a further account.

A question of considerable literary interest has just been decided in France, after many months' litigation. Messrs. Didot, the eminent Paris publishers, commenced some time ago the publication of a 'New Universal Biography,' to be brought down to the present time, and to be made more complete and exact than any previous one. For the first volumes of the work, they made no scruple in borrowing a number of biographies from the famous 'Biographie Universelle,' of the Messrs. Michaud, such articles having, they thought, become public property, owing to the length of time which had elapsed since the death of their authors. Messrs. Michaud objected both to the title of the new Biography, which they said was a plagiarism of theirs, and to the taking of the articles from it, which they said were still their property, as, though the authors were dead, they formed part of a collective work which they had revised and paid for. The question as to the title was at once decided against Messrs. Michaud, the courts holding that they could not monopolise the words 'Universal Biography;' but that respecting the proprietorship of the articles, drew forth contradictory decisions,—one to the effect that they were right, the other, that they were wrong. A third court has settled the matter by laying down, that the right of possession of articles by deceased authors ceases after the number of years from their death fixed by law, though forming part of a work in which copyright still remains.

The Manchester papers announce that the National Public School Association have resolved to take steps for the introduction of an education bill, based on their principles, early in the ensuing session of parliament; and a similar proceeding is hinted at on the part of the Manchester and Salford Education Association, who are represented in the Commons by Sir John Pakington, and in the Lords by the Bishop of the diocese.

The King of Bavaria has created a special order of knighthood for the reward of eminent literary, scientific, and artistic men. The order bears the name of his Majesty—Maximilian; and the decoration of it consists of a blue ribbon edged with white. It is not said whether foreigners are eligible for admission to the order, but no doubt they are. This is the first special order which has been created for art, science, and literature.

A treaty for the mutual protection of literary and artistic property has been signed between France and Spain.

Professor Creasy has been delivering some able lectures during the past week at Lewes, on 'The History of Slavery.'

M. Schneider, one of the most distinguished composers of Germany, died at Dessau, on the 29th of last month, aged sixty-seven. He leaves behind him twenty-three symphonies and other works, chiefly of a religious character, together with a requiem and three oratorios,—the *Deluge*, *Paradise Lost*, and the *Last Judgment*. All his works are admired, and the four last are considered by the Germans as of exceeding merit. He was at one time organist of the University Church at Leipsic, afterwards director of the Opera at Leipsic, and, later still, director of the Royal Opera-house at Dresden.

H. R. H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha having learned that his opera, *Casilda*, is about to be produced at the Théâtre Lyrique at Paris, has directed that the sum, that may become due to him for *droits d'auteur*, shall be paid over to the fund for the relief of distressed musicians in that city. The same prince has wisely broken through the absurd rule which has heretofore excluded actors from Orders of Knighthood, though musicians and dramatic authors have been admitted without scruple. His Royal Highness has created Emil Devrient, the German tragedian, a Knight of his Order of Ernestine.

Pacini has written a new opera for the Italian Theatre at Paris, called the *Cantatrice at Madrid*, and it is to be brought out in the course of the present season. The success of Madame Frezzolini at that theatre, mentioned in our last, was strikingly great, and it has been confirmed and increased by her subsequent appearances. She has a thorough knowledge of her art, a voice of great flexibility and silvery sweetness, a prepossessing manner and person, and is besides—a rare thing amongst Italian singers—an admirable actress. *I Puritani* is the opera in which she has appeared thus far. In the same work Mario attains great triumphs.

The Harmonic Union will give a performance of secular music on Monday, Handel's *Alexander's Feast*, MacFarren's *Leonora*, and pieces by Mendelssohn and Beethoven.

The *Prophète* of Meyerbeer has been resumed at St. Petersburg, with Tamberlik as *John of Leyden*, and Madame La Grange as *Fides*. It excites great admiration as heretofore, and Tamberlik and Madame La Grange are highly spoken of.

A little comic opera, called the *Moulin de Fontenoy*, the *libretto* by Vaez, music by Gevaert, has been produced at the Théâtre Lyrique at Paris. It has small pretensions, and was received with favour.

The Vienna papers say that an opera by our countryman Balfe was about to be produced in that city, under the title *Theoloante*.

Mlle. George, the once celebrated tragic and melodramatic actress of Paris, is about to take a benefit at the Théâtre Français. She retired from the stage some years ago, and this is to be her last appeal to the public.

The 5th was the sixty-second anniversary of the death of Mozart, and the 6th the fifty-ninth anniversary of the birth of Lablache.

The Circus at Berlin has been completely destroyed by fire. It was one of the finest equestrian houses in Europe.

It is rumoured that Madame Jenny Lind Goldschmidt, will sing in London during the forthcoming season, but it is not probable that she will appear anywhere except at Oratorios.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dec. 7th.—Harry Chester, Esq., in the chair. Before the reading of the paper, the secretary called the attention of the meeting to a large number of specimens which had been received from the Imperial Printing Office at Vienna, produced by the process known in Germany as 'Naturselfdruck,' and in this country as 'Phytoglyphy,' or the art of printing from nature. These specimens included every variety, botanical, geological, entomological, fossil, and fabrics. In the year 1851, Dr. Ferguson Branson communicated to the Society 'An Account of a Method of Engraving Plates from Nature,' which was read at a meeting held on the 26th of March in that year, and was published in the notice of proceedings at the time. Dr. Branson only contemplated the application of the process to ferns, leaves, seaweeds, and other flat plants. The method he adopted was, to impress the object itself into gutta percha or other soft material, and then to obtain an electrotpe from the mould. The novelty of the present process consisted in the use of lead for receiving the impression, in place of gutta percha; and also in applying to the polished surfaces of minerals a weak acid, which acted with a different degree of intensity on the materials of which the mineral was composed, and so caused a greater or less indentation. The moulds from the fossils were taken by liquid gutta percha. Specimens were also exhibited by Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, who are working the process in this country. Samples were exhibited from Dr. Forbes Royle, of cultivated Rhea fibre from Assam, produced by *Boehmeria Nivea*, which was the plant which yields the Chinese grass, of which the fine grass-cloth is made; also of the wild Rhea fibre. The Anglo-Franco-Algerian Vegetable Fibre Company exhibited some samples of jute, palm, and ditz fibres in various stages of manufacture, prepared by Claussen's process. The paper read was 'On a new Safety Lamp, and the Invention of the Safety Lamp,' by Dr. Glover. As the history of the invention of the Safety Lamp was frequently misunderstood, the author thought it advisable to call attention to the simple facts of the case in the first instance. He said that Dr. Clanny, so far back as the year 1806, conceived the idea of a safe lamp to burn in mines. In the year 1813, a paper by him on the subject was read to the Royal Society, and published in the 'Philosophical Transactions.' Dr. Clanny's first lamp, although cumbrous, was quite safe. His plan was to insulate the light by means of water, and to supply the flame with air by a bellows. Sir Humphrey Davy, before the production of his wire-gauze lamp, proposed four others, all modifications of that of Dr. Clanny. At length his attention was drawn to the researches of Tennant on Flame. Tennant, of Cambridge, had discovered that flame would pass along tubes in a ratio compounded of their breadth and length. The smaller the calibre, the shorter would be the length that flame could traverse. Davy improved upon the idea, and with that happy and sagacious genius which belonged to this wonderful man, came to the conclusion that wire gauze was as it were an abstraction of this principle, and that here we had tubes of the shortest possible length, and narrowest diameter. Hence his invention of the safety lamp. But as the object of these preliminary observations was to do justice to all, it must not be denied that there was indisputable proof that George Stephenson, absurdly called by a biographer of Davy, a Mr. Stephenson, had,

when a humble miner, ascertained the same fact practically; and it was also quite clear that these two great men knew nothing of each other's inventions. But after the invention of the wire-gauze safety-lamp, certain imperfections began gradually to reveal themselves. In the first place, it was found to give so little light that the pitmen seized every opportunity of removing the gauze, finding, in point of fact, that their work could not be done with the imperfect light. And, in the second place, the great fact began to be developed, that this lamp, however secure in a still atmosphere, was not safe in a current. An account of the various attempts made to remedy the defects of the Davy—viz., in security in a current and deficiency of light, would fill a volume. As far as the author was aware, the only lamps that had to any extent superseded the Davy, were the Clanny and Müseler lamps. Dr. Clanny at length found that if the lower part of a lamp were made of thick glass, and the wire-gauze cylinder retained above this, two things arose.—1st. The current of air descended to feed the flame in converging curves, and the gaseous products of combustion ascended in diverging curves. And, 2nd., owing to the use of the glass, the gauze, being no longer required to give light, could be made much finer, or even doubled and trebled. The Müseler lamp differs from the Clanny only in having a chimney in its interior just above the flame. There were two objections to the Clanny lamps—viz., the liability of the glass to fracture on being heated, from a drop of water falling upon it in this state, and also its liability to fracture from mechanical causes. To remedy these defects as far as possible, Dr. Glover's lamp had been invented. Instead of the single glass cylinder of the Clanny lamp, a double cylinder was used. The outer cylinder was a quarter of an inch thick, the inner one a good stout glass, a full eighth of an inch thick. The air to feed the flame entered at the top of both, through wire-gauze, and passed downward between them, entering the inner cylinder through gauze. The double cylinder, kept packed as it were together by the gauze, was thus much stronger than a single one would be, and if either cylinder be broken the lamp was still a safe lamp. The current between the glasses kept the outer cylinder cool, so that it could always be held in the hand, while a Müseler or Clanny got soon so hot that it would burn the flesh. The light was even superior to the Clanny, owing probably to the more perfect combustion, the air entering the inner cylinder at the bottom.

R. S. OF LITERATURE, Nov. 23rd.—Samuel Birch, Esq. in the chair.—Mr. Vaux read a paper communicated by Mr. Stuart Poole of the British Museum, 'On an Assyrian bowl procured by Mr. Layard at Nimrud,' and lately most carefully cleaned by Mr. Doubleday, which exhibits the peculiarity that it contains two circles of Egyptian hieroglyphics, the one apparently a simple inscription, the other a series of cartouches. The bowl itself has been injured, and, from two considerable holes in it, has lost nearly one-fourth of its original size. The hieroglyphical characters on it have been much defaced by the hand of time, and are, in some instances, wholly illegible. On examining them, the question naturally arises, whether they are to be considered as specimens of Egyptian work, such as are found on the monuments of Egypt Proper, or whether they are representations of Assyrian words, or names, transcribed in the Egyptian sacred character; or, lastly, whether they are only blind imitations of Egyptian writing, executed by some workman unskilled in the art of engraving hieroglyphics? Mr. Poole, on a careful examination of them, decides against the last alternative, and expresses his belief that the writing is genuinely Egyptian, and a transcript of Assyrian names. Mr. Poole has observed the constant recurrence of certain groups, as *Noubu*, or *Nebu*, in one case followed by the determinative used in hieroglyphics for God, and, in another instance, a group which he would read *Meret*, or *Mered*, and would compare with *Merodach* (Mars), or *Martu* (Neptune). Such occurrences can hardly be considered as merely acci-



dental coincidences. On another cartouche, he reads *Merod-unkh-ul*, or *Merod-unkh-bal*, which bears a striking resemblance to *Merodach-baladan* of the Bible; on a second he finds the name *Sut-her-tu*, which reminds one of *Sut-bel-herat*, a king (according to Colonel Rawlinson) who was vanquished by Divanubara, the Assyrian ruler, who set up the black obelisk which was found at Nimrud. A third cartouche contains a name of even greater interest. It may be read *Shenukterim*, the first two syllables of the name being, in Mr. Poole's opinion, undoubtedly a correct reading, and probably, too, the last. This name has a remarkable resemblance to that of Sennacherib, who we know himself conquered Merodach-baladan. In the conclusion of his paper, Mr. Poole states that he is unwilling, in the present state of knowledge, to urge these readings with too great positiveness, but that he throws them out with a view of stimulating further research on a question of great interest.—Mr. Hogg read a letter from Mr. A. C. Harris, dated Rosetta, August 1st, 1853, in which he states that M. Mariette, on behalf of the French government, is continuing his researches at the Apis catacombs, Sakkarah; that Dr. Brugsch, for the Prussian government, is making large collections of documents for the furtherance of the study of the *Demotic*, which Mr. Harris thinks will prove in the end as successful a result of study as the hieroglyphics have proved to be: and that a gentleman in the employ of H. M. Abbas Pasha, is at work clearing out some of the temples, while researches are also being made into the annual deposit of mud by the Nile in its inundations, with a view of testing the accuracy of the statements made by some of the *servants* of the French expedition. Mr. Hogg communicated also a short notice of Professor Tischendorf's last visit to Egypt, from which he returned in May, 1853, which has proved a very successful one, as he has succeeded in procuring no less than seven Greek MSS. of parts of the Bible—three forming portions of the Old Testament, and four of the New. He has also met with some fragments of an Arabic MS., containing a portion of the Epistles of St. Paul, as early as the *eighth century*. Mr. Hogg then read an interesting paper 'On some ancient Assyrian and Egyptian sculptures in Turkey,' from which it appeared, that an Irish missionary, the Rev. J. L. Porter, M.A., has discovered, at no great distance from Damascus, a remarkable *Tel*, or mound, called the *Tel-es-Salahieh*, built like the Babylonian mounds, of a mass of brickwork, now fast crumbling away. Beside it he saw a slab of white limestone, on which was a piece of rude sculpture, resembling in form and workmanship those lately brought from Nimrud. It is probable that this fragment will turn out to be a memorial of the Assyrian dominion over that part of Syria, resembling the statue at the Nahr-el-Kelb, near Beyrout, which has been so often described by travellers. Mr. Hogg in the course of his paper alluded to the late labours of M. de Sauley in the Holy Land, and to a denial, which that gentleman has given on the authority of M. Oppert, whom he sent to examine them *in situ*, of the genuineness of the Egyptian memorials, which are also sculptured on the rock beside the banks of the Nahr-el-Kelb. Hitherto no doubt has been entertained of their being the genuine remains of Egyptian workmanship, and it will require more than the assertion of M. Oppert to discredit the truth of sculptures which have been drawn and engraven under the care of so practised an artist at M. Bonomi, and which have been admitted to be true by every Egyptian scholar who has examined them, and most recently by Dr. Lepsius, who made a special visit to these sculptures in 1845, and has described them in his 'Letters from Egypt,' lately published.

CHEMICAL.—Nov. 7th.—Warren de la Rue, Esq., in the chair. After the reading of a list of presents which had accumulated during the vacation, Dr. Odling, of Guy's Hospital, was called upon for his paper 'On the Expression of the

Formulae of Salts.' This communication was of interest in a theoretical point of view. It was an attempt to reduce the formulae of neutral basic and acid salts to an expression similar to that adopted by the French chemists for water, namely,  $H \left\{ \begin{matrix} H \\ H \end{matrix} \right\} O$ .

Some experiments were narrated, principally for the purpose of showing the correctness of the author's views in respect to the phosphates. The discussion of this paper was postponed. Dr. Simpson, of Dublin, then read a paper, and exhibited drawings, descriptive of a new process for estimating nitrogen. There were two modifications of his method. The first served for determining the comparative amount of nitrogen and carbonic acid formed during the combustion of an azotized organic substance. It did not differ widely from Liebig's process now in use, except that oxide of mercury, diluted with oxide of copper, was employed for burning the substance, and chlorate of potash was placed at the end of the tube to yield a supply of oxygen. The absolute method resembled Dumas' in principle, carbonate of manganese, however, being the substance employed for the production of carbonic acid, and some peculiar arrangements being introduced, especially in the receiver over the mercury trough. These processes had been worked out in Bunsen's laboratory; and were equally applicable to the determination of nitrogen in such substances as the *vegeto-alkaloids*, in nitrates, or in salts of ammonia.

Nov. 21st.—Robert Porrett, Esq., in the chair. G. Downing Living, Esq., was elected a Fellow. The discussion on Dr. Odling's paper was commenced by Mr. Brodie, who pointed out the complicated character of many of the formulae proposed. He animadverted upon the general views of the French chemists on this subject, and observed that Gerhardt, lately, in explaining hydrated sulphuric acid, had come back again to something almost identical with the binary theory of salts, as developed by Berzelius. Mr. Abel, in Dr. Odling's absence, explained and defended that gentleman's views. Professor Williamson expressed his adherence to the principles of the paper under discussion, and entered into a critical examination of Laurent's views respecting atoms. He considered as of especial importance the combination of the ideas of atom and equivalent as developed by Dr. Odling, and the expression by dashes of the different combining values of the same element.—Dr. Gladstone asked some questions of Mr. Abel about the formulae proposed for kaloid salts. He considered a general mode of expression for salts, which should be also applicable to those double salts which consisted of the same base, combined with two different acids. In Dr. Odling's absence, the possible extension of his views to such cases could not be entered into.—Mr. A. W. Wills, of University College, read a paper 'On Ethers intermediate between the *cenanthylic* and the *ethylic*, *methylic*, and *amyllic* series.' The ethers described by the author had been formed in the same manner as the compound ethers of Williamson, and were analogous to them. He also stated that the alcohol produced by saponification of castor oil and distillation of the soap with excess of potash, was by him found to be *cenanthylic*, as subsequently stated by Bonis, and not *caprylic*, as at first stated by the French chemists, and more recently by Mosheim.—Mr. Wills suggested the probability either of different samples of castor oil having a different constitution, or of the products of its treatment varying according to the manner of operating.

ASIATIC.—Dec. 3rd.—Sir Geo. Staunton, Bart., in the chair. Lieut.-Col. F. Abbott, C.B.; N. B. E. Baillie, Esq., S. S. Dickinson, Esq., T. G. Hough, Esq., and Benjamin Hutt, Esq., were elected into the Society. Dr. James Bird read to the meeting a paper 'On the Contents of the *Tazkirat-ul-Mulk*,' a Persian work by Ruffi-ud-din Sherazi; with some account of the author, who occupied a very distinguished station in the service of

Ali Adil Shah, king of Bijapur, up to the time of his death, which happened subsequently to the year 1636 A.D., when he had attained a very advanced age. His work is one of the few Mahomedan histories which contain a personal narrative of the author's own times, is highly interesting, and supplies materials for filling up the annals of the once great kingdom of the Dekhan. Though it professes to be only a cotemporary history of the dynasties of the Dekhan, its value is enhanced by a sketch of their previous history, and by occasional notices of other kingdoms then flourishing. The author commenced the compilation of his work in his seventeenth year—just one year previous to the time when Ferishta completed his well-known general history of India. He was also author of a *diwan*, or book of poems, of considerable merit. This important historical work is but little known, and Dr. Bird's copy was made from the only one that has yet been discovered. The assistant-secretary read portions of letters, received during the recess, from Col. Rawlinson, giving some notice of the results of his labours during the past few months. Among other matters of interest, the Colonel gave some details of the early chronology of the Assyrian Empire, which he felt satisfied must have been originally one with that of Babylonia—that, in fact, Assyria was a province of Babylonia until about the thirteenth century B.C., when the northern division threw off the yoke of Babylon, and became the paramount country, first at Kila Shergat, and afterwards at Nineveh, reducing Babylonia, in its turn, to the provincial rank. In the early periods Assyria was governed by satraps from Babylonia, who were called *Patis*—a name singularly resembling the Zend and Sanscrit words signifying lord or master. Six of these satraps had been found commemorated on three different bricks—a pair on each, in the relation of father and son; but as there was no connexion between the inscriptions, no judgment could be arrived at as to priority of time. The Colonel has also found a large number of royal names of the same period from the southern division of the empire; and among them some designated as '*Patis of Assyria*,' in addition to their royal titles. He had also worked hard at the *terra cotta* syllabaria, of which he had in his possession an immense number in fragments. From them he had made out a list of some hundreds of monograms, with their explanations, phonetic readings, and varieties of signification. One tablet contained a list of birds which might not be eaten, in the manner of the scripture prohibitions; another, a list of the gods worshipped in the empire, with the names of the cities and temples where the devotions were performed. He was convinced that a very long period must elapse before the reading of these numerous lists of monograms could be satisfactorily completed; and until then it was in vain to endeavour to give a perfect transcript of the inscriptions before us in any phonetic alphabet. The Colonel mentioned in one of his letters the discovery of a third obelisk, which he was expecting to receive at Bagdad. In the meantime, a copy of part of the inscription upon it had reached him, from which he saw that the king (whose name did not occur in the part received) had, among various campaigns in Asia Minor, Syria, Lebanon, &c., undertaken an expedition against the islands in the Mediterranean, setting sail from the port of Arudus with a fleet of thirty-four ships hired from the Phœnicians. One half of the inscription was taken up with details of restoration and improvements of the city of Nineveh. The names of four kings are given as the builders of the works which required repair; and as three of them were the immediate predecessors of Assurakhpal, we cannot make the obelisk older than the sixth century B.C. A name is found upon this inscription which we have not read before; the phonetic rendering is *Assurad-napali*—no doubt the warlike Sardanapalus of the Greeks, the first of the name. The last received letter was written under canvass at Ctesiphon, to which place the Colonel had gone in consequence of ill health, aggravated by the heat of Bagdad. He was occupied there in making interlinear and literal translations of the annals of Tiglath-Pileser I.,



from the Shergat cylinder, and of Assurakhpal, from the Nimrud monolith, which he hoped to send home soon.

**KILKENNY ARCHEOLOGICAL.**—Nov. 2nd.—Dr. James in the chair. Forty-three new members were proposed and admitted. The donations to the library and museum included contributions from—Richard Sainthill, Esq.; the Archaeological Institute; the Geological Society of Dublin; Dr. Aquilla Smith; the Rev. T. R. Brown, Oundle; John Spread, Esq.; the Rev. James Mease; Lord James Butler; Francis R. Davis, Esq.; the Rev. James Graves; Sir E. D. Burrows, Bart.; Rev. G. S. Faber, Durham; S. Carter, Esq.; &c. Amongst the donations to the museum were counterfeit casts of a bronze sword and two bronze celts, as well for the purpose of enabling collectors to distinguish between real and genuine antiquities, as because they were accurate *facsimiles* of the latter; an impression of the personal seal of William de Broc, temp. Hen. II.; and a number of interesting specimens of encaustic tiles, from one of the abbeys of the ancient deserted town of Clonmines, Co. Wexford, and Jerpoint Abbey, the latter found during the works at present in progress for the preservation of this venerable and picturesque ruin. The Secretary announced that the contract entered into for the sustentation of the remains of Jerpoint Abbey was fast approaching its completion, and he hoped that ere winter fully set in the structure would be in some degree safe from the effects of storms or other elemental injury. Mr. Graves said that he had already alluded to the destruction caused by the storm on Christmas Eve, 1852. He had now to notice the fall of the south arcade of Dunbrody Abbey. At a recent visit made by him to that ruin,—now a ruin indeed,—he was shocked to find the noble pile choked by heaps of rubbish, the *débris* of the fallen arcade. A few pounds expended in propping the structure would have prevented the fall of that building; but so far from this having been done, he actually heard the agent of the noble owner, Lord Templemore, assert the astounding opinion, that the abbey was improved by the fall of the arcade,—the ruin being rendered more picturesque thereby! Mr. Graves, however, further stated, that he was informed that immediate steps would be taken to preserve what remained. A splendid west window had fallen many years ago. The rumour of the neighbourhood was, that a local clergyman had asked permission of the Lord Templemore of the day to execute some necessary repairs on it at his own expense, but was refused permission in not the most civil manner, being told to mind his own affairs. Mr. Graves hoped that this was not true—he only told the tale as it was told to him. The secretary said it was his further very unpleasant duty to refer to the demolition of an interesting feature which up to this summer adorned the beautiful old early English church of Thomastown. The chance of this fine structure had been taken down about thirty years since to build the present church, and the south arcade had fallen many years ago, one Sunday morning, from the sure but slow progress of time and decay; but one fine arcade and an interesting two-light side aisle window had remained on the north side to delight the student of ancient church architecture. What was his dismay when, on a visit to Thomastown early in the October of this year, he found this window demolished, its shattered arch and graceful mullion forming a pile of rubbish beneath a yawning breach in the wall. On inquiry he learned that it had been deliberately taken down to prevent the urchins of the village from pillaging the nests of the birds who built in the adjoining parts of the ruin! Mr. Graves conceived that some broken glass would equally have answered the end in view. The following are the headings of the papers which were read at the meeting: 'On the Market Cross of Kilkenny,' by Mr. Prim, a paper in which a good deal of the history, and many of the customs, of ancient Kilkenny were brought forth from the old records which make mention of them; 'On Kerry Antiqui-

ties,' by Mr. Dunlevy; 'An Ida Tradition,' by the Rev. P. Moore, R.C.C.; 'On Ancient Seals, and on Bovine Traditions,' by the Rev. George Stanley Faber; Original documents, laid before the Society by Mr. Graves, by permission of the Marquis of Ormonde. Other ancient Irish documents were exhibited by Mr. J. F. Ferguson, who having heard of the existence of some of them in the chateau of the Baron de Lassberg, on the Lake of Constance in Switzerland, and who, after having laid the matter before the authorities in England, but without success, proceeded at his own expense, in the course of last summer, to the Baron de Lassberg's Swiss castle, and succeeded in purchasing from him the manuscripts in question, thus securing to Ireland documents which Mr. Ferguson was unable to learn how or at what time they were abstracted from that country. Albert Way, Esq., also forwarded a transcript of a very curious letter of the thirteenth century, from the archives of Canterbury Cathedral. Mr. Hitchcock contributed some 'Notes made in the Archaeological Court of the Great Exhibition of 1853;' and the Rev. James Graves, an 'Essay on the Rath and Duns of Ireland.'

**BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL.**—Nov. 23rd.—Ralph Bernal, Esq., M.A., President. Numerous presents to the library were laid upon the table, received from the Society of Antiquaries of London and Picardy, the Archaeological Societies of Sussex, Lincolnshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Sussex, &c., the Archaeological Institute, the Smithsonian Institution, the Commissioners for Indian Affairs of the United States, the keepers of the Museum of Antiquities at the Louvre and at Marseilles, Rev. Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Halliwell, Mr. Falkener, &c. Twenty-one Associates were announced having been elected since the last meeting in June, among whom were the Earl Ducie, Hon. Francis Villiers, M.P., Captain Leicester Vernon, M.P., Mr. Alderman Salomons, Rev. Ed. Hale, Rev. Robert Whiston, M.A., the Town Clerks of Rochester and Maidstone, &c. To the foreign list had been added Count de Laborde of Paris, M. Dassy of Marseilles, and M. Costa, the architect, also of Marseilles. Mr. Pettigrew laid before the Association some Saxon remains found during an excavation made at Rochester, including various fibule, brooches, buckles, armilla, beads, spear-heads, and some human bones. Twenty skeletons had been exhumed, and the place was clearly discovered to have been a Saxon burial-ground. Two of the brooches were ordered to be engraved, also an armilla and a buckle of singular form. The Rev. Mr. Hugo exhibited a fine specimen of the rose noble of Edward II., one of the finest examples of the gold coinage of England. It was found in September last, in the progress of some excavations made in Bury-street in the City. A communication from the Rev. Thomas Rankin, 'On a Sacrificial Tumulus on the Yorkshire Wolds,' was read and referred to the Printing Committee. The remains of the bones of animals were found in considerable quantity. Mr. F. J. Baigent exhibited a leaden token of the date of 1531, found at Hyde-street, Winchester. It appeared to be a religious token, and the letters I. S. upon it were referable to John Saultcot, the last abbot of the Benedictine order of St. Grimbald, on the site of which abbey it was dug up, rather than to the monogram of the holy name. Mr. Baigent also made communications of numerals obtained from painted glass in the Hospital of St. Cross, and from a scroll over the fireplace of the master's room, together with initials. Mr. Harland sent a copy of an inscription upon a leaden plate brought from Smyrna. The letters were in relief, and appeared to be Greek characters, but not readily distinguishable. The remainder of the evening was occupied by the reading of a paper by Mr. Pettigrew, 'On the various MS. Versions of the Old and New Testament attributed to John Wycliffe,' and the exhibition of a very fine MS. about A.D. 1390. It is the property of Thomas Banister, Esq., of the Inner Temple, and has been in his family for many generations.

It was remarkable for having at the bottom of the first page *A vous me ly*, GLOUCESTER. Sir F. Madden conjectures the autograph to be that of the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III., but Mr. Pettigrew and Mr. Black were rather disposed to attribute it to Humphrey Duke of Gloucester. A fac-simile was ordered to be taken, and comparisons instituted to determine the point. The reading of Mr. O'Connor's paper 'On Ancient Painted Glass' was, in consequence of Mr. O'Connor's indisposition, deferred to the meeting in January next. Mr. Duesbury will on the 14th of December read his paper 'On the Architecture of Pre-Norman England.'

**INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.**—Nov. 28th.—John Finlaison, Esq., President, in the chair. 'On some points connected with the Education of an Actuary,' by H. W. Porter, Esq. The author commenced by stating that the groundwork of all actuarial knowledge was mathematics. An acquaintance with elementary algebra, and a knowledge of the less complicated problems in the doctrine of probabilities (or chances) was a good foundation on which to commence studying the theory of annuities and assurances. The higher mathematics were used with advantage in determining the law of mortality, and in adjusting mortality tables; hence the necessity of their cultivation. High scientific knowledge and perfect habits of business were not incompatible, and their combination was most desirable: the success of many institutions was mainly to be attributed to the sound principles which the mathematician inculcated in their earlier stages. A knowledge of cognate subjects was often required. Thus a knowledge of statistics, and of medical nomenclature were requisite to enable an actuary to prepare a nosological table of the causes of deaths, and who but a statistic could collect and arrange the materials for a mortality table? Moreover, the actuary should not be entirely ignorant of the causes and effects of diseases. The effects of certain avocations upon different constitutions was a most useful study, for the popular ideas upon such subjects were not unfrequently very erroneous. The author alluded to a work published in 1832, entitled 'The Effects of Arts, Trades, and Professions on Health and Longevity,' and he expressed a hope that Dr. Farr, who was known to possess ample materials for a similar work, could be induced to give the public the benefit of his labours, his writings on annuities and assurance, and the tables that accompany them in the appendices to the Registrar-General's Reports, being reckoned among the most valuable contributions on these subjects. It fell to the province of the actuary to determine how far longevity might be influenced by sanitary improvements; and some knowledge of finance was necessary to regulate the investments of the institution. Alluding to the confusion occasioned by the various systems of notation to be met with in works on annuities and assurances, the author condemned the practice of each writer adopting his own system of notation instead of keeping to one uniform set of symbols, and he concluded by expressing a hope that as the certificate of competency was not now granted to associates of the Institute until they had passed three examinations at an interval of a year apart, and each more difficult than the preceding, the legislature would entrust it, before long, with a charter of incorporation.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION.**—Dec. 5th.—At the general monthly meeting, held this day, William Pole, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., Treasurer, in the chair. Joseph Collis, Esq., Benjamin Gray, Esq., John Ferguson, M.D., and Thomas Spencer Wells, Esq., were elected Members. The presents received were laid before the Members, and the Secretary announced that Professor Faraday would deliver a course of lectures in the Christmas vacation on Voltaic Electricity, (adapted to a juvenile audience,) and that courses of lectures by Professors Tyndal,

Wharton Jones, and Miller, would be given on the Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays before Easter. It was also stated that the Friday evening meetings would commence on Jan. 20th, 1854.

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.**—Geographical, 8½ p.m.—(Journey into the Balkan or Mount Hæmus, with a description of the Dofiles through this celebrated mountain-range, and a comparison of the routes pursued by Darius Hystaspes, Alexander the Great, and Marshal Diebitch, by Lieut.-Gen. A. Jochmus, 2nd part.)
- British Architects, 8 p.m.
  - Medical, 8 p.m.—(Physiological Meeting.)
  - School of Mines.—(Dr. Hofmann on Chemistry, 10 a.m.)—(Professor Smyth on Mineralogy, 12 a.m.)
  - Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.
- Tuesday.**—
- Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.
  - Zoological, 9 p.m.
  - Syro-Egyptian, 7½ p.m.—(1. Mr. Black on the Sands of the Valley of the Nile; 2. Dr. Camps on certain notices of early Egyptian Chemistry lately published; 3. Mr. Hetley on some small stamped Terra Cottas, supposed to have been coin found at Palmyra; 4. Dr. Loewe, Origin of the name Memphis, and translation of an inscription on a Bust excavated at Palmyra; 5. Mr. Ainsworth on the Mounds of North Syria.)
  - School of Mines.—(Dr. Percy on Metallurgy, 11 a.m.)—(Professor Smyth on Mineralogy, 2 p.m.)
- Wednesday.**—Geological, 8 p.m.—(1. On the Structure of the Chonetes comoides, a Fossil Shell from the Mountain Limestone, by Thomas Davidson, Esq., F.G.S.; 2. On a peculiar Fossil Plant from the coal shales of Glasgow, by Dr. J. D. Hooker, F.R.S., F.G.S.)
- Society of Arts, 8 p.m.—(Mr. I. J. Mechi's Third Report on the Result of his Experiments at Tiptree Hall Farm.)
  - Graphic, 8 p.m.
  - Pharmaceutical, 8½ p.m.
  - Royal Society of Literature, 4½ p.m.
  - Literary Fund, 3 p.m.
  - Archeological Association, 8½ p.m.—(Mr. Duesbury on Pre-Norman Architecture.)
  - School of Mines.—(Professor Hunt on Physics, 12 a.m.)—(Professor Smyth on Mineralogy, 2 p.m.)
- Thursday.**—Royal, 8½ p.m.
- Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
  - School of Mines.—(Dr. Hofmann on Chemistry, 10 a.m.)—(Professor Smyth on Mineralogy, 2 p.m.)
- Friday.**—School of Mines.—(Dr. Percy on Chemistry, 10 a.m.)—(Professor Hunt on Physics, 12 a.m.)
- Saturday.**—Asiatic, 2 p.m.
- Medical, 8 p.m.

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Leipzig, Dec. 6th.

It was already dark when I changed carriages at the Halle railway station. That into which I entered was nearly full, as I discovered by seven little shining fires from the seven cigars which were being diligently puffed by the seated travellers. The sudden change from the cold air of a frosty November evening to the smoky atmosphere of a German railway carriage, "Wo es geraucht wird," set me sneezing violently; and a running fire of exclamations such as "Ihr Wohlseyn," "Zur Gesundheit," "Wohl bekomme es Ihnen," "Prosit," ("Your well-being," "To your health," "Much good may it do you," &c.) which assailed me on all sides, gave evidence that I had reached the polite land of Saxony, where these trifling courtesies are more rigorously observed than in other parts of Germany. After an hour's drive we reached Leipzig. This is one of the most important towns in Germany, both from its extensive trade carried on with the Danubian provinces, Turkey, Greece, and other parts of Europe, and from its being the great book-mart of Germany. There are about a hundred resident booksellers and publishers, from whose printing-offices are issued almost all the great works in Germany which require much capital or enterprise. We have here, too, Del Vecchio's 'Permanente Ausstellung,' where one is always sure to find a really good collection of paintings of modern European artists. The Conservatorium, a school of music, founded in 1842 by Mendelssohn, is now one of the best in Europe, and the Thomas School is interesting to all lovers of music, from its associations with that great master, Sebastian Bach, who, during many years of his life, held the post of Cantor in it. The

celebrated Gewandhaus concerts are, however, the great attraction of Leipzig, and strangers attend them from Dresden, Halle, Berlin, and even from places still more remote. Under the direction of Mendelssohn they reached the height of their fame. He not only judiciously selected the works to be performed, from the best music of every school, but was careful that the execution should be as finished as possible. The consequence is, to use the words of Jules Benedict, "that Leipzig has now become the centre and high court of musical science." Fräulein Ney, who was some years ago in England, is at present the great attraction; she is the *prima donna* of the Dresden boards. Fräulein Louise Bergauer, from the theatre at Prague, is also engaged for the season. A travelling Algerian family, consisting of Jussaf ben Ibrahim, the head of it, with his wife, sister, sister-in-law, and two children, had proved a very lucrative exhibition in Leipzig; and, indeed, the beauty of the women and the richness of the costumes were well worthy of a visit. From Dresden we heard that Herr Goldschmidt's series of concerts had commenced, and that Madame Jenny Lind Goldschmidt had sung delightfully in the second. The news of the death of Gustav Metz, which took place in the latter end of October, in London, from Asiatic cholera, had been received with great sorrow; he was a scholar of Bendemann, and had already attained considerable eminence in his art,—indeed, he was as much beloved for his kindly disposition and social qualities as he was respected for his artistic attainments. Death, too, has carried off Frau Heese, one of the principal ornaments of the Dresden theatre. The erection during the summer of the colossal statues on the Schloss Bridge, at Berlin, is another addition to that long list of great ornamental works which will make the reign of Frederick William for ever memorable. In one quarter of the town are clustered together the new opera-house, the arsenal, the museum with its amazon, the monument to Blücher, the statues of Bülow and Scharnhorst, the palace with its magnificent equestrian groups, and now the noble Schloss Brücke. They produce an effect almost unrivalled in magnificence. There are in all eight groups, each by a different artist. The subjects are:—in the first, Victory pointing out to Youth the names of the great heroes; in the second, Minerva instructing Youth in the use of weapons; in the third, Minerva is represented giving a sword to a youth; and in the fourth group, which stands opposite to the arsenal, Victory crowns the conquering Hero; in the fifth, Victory bears up the wounded Warrior; in the sixth, Minerva summons the Youth to the battle, promising him victory; in the seventh, she protects the warrior in the fight; and in the eighth and last, Iris bears away the fallen hero to Olympus. The statues are all on plinths of polished granite. Their height is on an average eight and a half feet; they are on pedestals of Silesian marble, about nine feet high, with medallion portraits in Carrara marble inlaid into each. The artists who have executed these works are Wolf, who was a pupil of Schadow, and who is now in Rome; Drake, formerly a pupil of Rauch; Professor Wichmann, and Wredow; besides Müller, Wolf, and Bläser, young artists, pupils of Rauch; and Schiwelein, a scholar of Wichmann. A new prayer, composed by the Chevalier Neukomm, was performed at the Academy at Berlin to celebrate the king's birthday; it is taken from the 21st Psalm, and set for four voices, but can also be arranged for solo voice, with organ accompaniment. This composition is remarkable for its simplicity and strong religious feeling. A simple monument has just been erected in Berlin, near the Halle gate, to Neander; it consists of a slab of granite, on which is raised a bust in relief in white Carrara marble, taken from the original bust by Drake; underneath is engraved the 13th verse of the 12th chapter of Corinthians, and the inscription, "August Neander, born on the 16th January, 1789; died 14th July, 1850. From the sisters to the never-to-be-forgotten brother." Hector Berlioz concluded his performances at Brunswick by a concert for the benefit of

the fund of the "capelle;" after which Herr Müller, the capelle-meister, presented him, in the name of the capelle, with a laurel crown and a silver baton. It is said that Dawson has thrown up his engagement in Vienna, and is going for a short time to London, and will then permanently settle in Dresden. There is a rumour here that a company, not under the superintendence of Mr. Mitchell, is about to go to London, under the expectation of deriving sufficient support from the German residents there. Auerbach has, I hear, been laid up for many weeks from bilious fever, in Augsburg; and having partially recovered, undertook a journey to Dresden, and has since had a severe relapse. Dahl, the animal painter, was to leave Dresden for Rome in a few days. An excellent lithograph, by Waldow, of Ary Scheffer's portrait of Chopin, has just been published at Berlin.

## VARIETIES.

**Belfast School of Art.**—The annual *soirée* of the students in the Government School of Arts at Belfast, was given, on Friday week, in the Academical Institution there. The meeting was largely attended by the friends of the pupils, the pupils themselves, and those interested in the cultivation of artistic design. Mr. Davison, M.P., was called to the chair, and addressed the pupils. While alluding to the late Earl of Belfast, and the statue of McDowell, who is a native of that city, to be erected as a memorial of the late earl, the chairman narrated as an anecdote of the sculptor, that his first efforts in drawing were made on the backs of common delf plates, on which he designed all manner of curious figures, and the only paint within his reach with which he coloured his drawings was brick-dust. He then took to pencil, and Newman's paints. His next step was moulding figures in bread-paste or dough, and by progressive stages he advanced till he has become one of the first of living artists. From this example, added the chairman, learn what some of you may accomplish, if you but walk in his footsteps. The chairman congratulated the friends of the Institution on the satisfactory progress it was making under Mr. Nursey's tuition.—*Builder.*

**The New York Crystal Palace.**—Far back in the country, while yet the burning weather lasted, the thrill of this splendid novelty was felt; in sober villages, in lonely farm-houses, in log-huts still haunted by deer and the prairie-wolf. Even then, preparations were making, excuses devised, and pence put by, for a visit to New York as soon as the harvest should be housed and the heat abated. 'The Crystal Palace' was the universal theme, the moment any one appeared who knew any thing about it. Meanwhile those with whom knowledge was more abundant and money not quite so hard to come by; all who had travelled or meant to travel, or who had read other people's travels in the splendid olden world, were already astir, waiting for no harvest-garnering, or work-fishing, or even for the filling up of the immense spaces of the House of Glass, rather pleased to have less of distraction for the first view, so often to be repeated before a rational curiosity could be satiated. Our hotels can bear witness to the floods of silk and broadcloth, from all points of the Union, that filled their halls to unexampled overflowing, even while the summer was yet fierce. New York being on the way to Saratoga, to Newport, to the White Hills, to Quebec, and the Saguenay, to everywhere, in short—even the ultra-fashionable, not famed for rational curiosity, did not disdain to bestow a passing glance on the Industry of All Nations, dignified as it was in their estimation by the Art and Elegance of All Nations.—*Pulman's American Magazine.*

**Mr. Abbott's Museum.**—The subscription undertaken by several gentlemen of this city, for the purchase of Dr. Henry Abbott's collection of Egyptian antiquities, has been commenced with a fair prospect of success. The wealthy men of New York are beginning to appreciate the value of their position in seconding public objects of this class.—*New York Literary World.*



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This Society does not allow any Commission to Agents and Solicitors on each annual payment, which is the practice in many other Offices, from whose Divisible Profits such yearly payments constitute a very considerable deduction; but this Society relies on its liberal mode of doing business, and the advantages it offers for its recommendation to the public.

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Proposals for Assurances to be addressed to the SECRETARY, or to JOHN WRAY, Esq., Chairman of the Committee, 24, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, London; or to the Corresponding Directors, MANUEL JOHN JOHNSON, Esq., M.A., Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford, H. GUNNING, Esq., M.A., or Wm. HOPKINS, Esq., M.A., Cambridge, from whom Forms of Proposal may be obtained.

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The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction—

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium.	Reduction of 30 per Cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 5 3	14 12 3
25	1000	23 0 0	6 18 0	16 2 0
30	1000	26 15 0	7 12 6	19 2 0
45	2000	60 11 8	18 3 6	42 8 2

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